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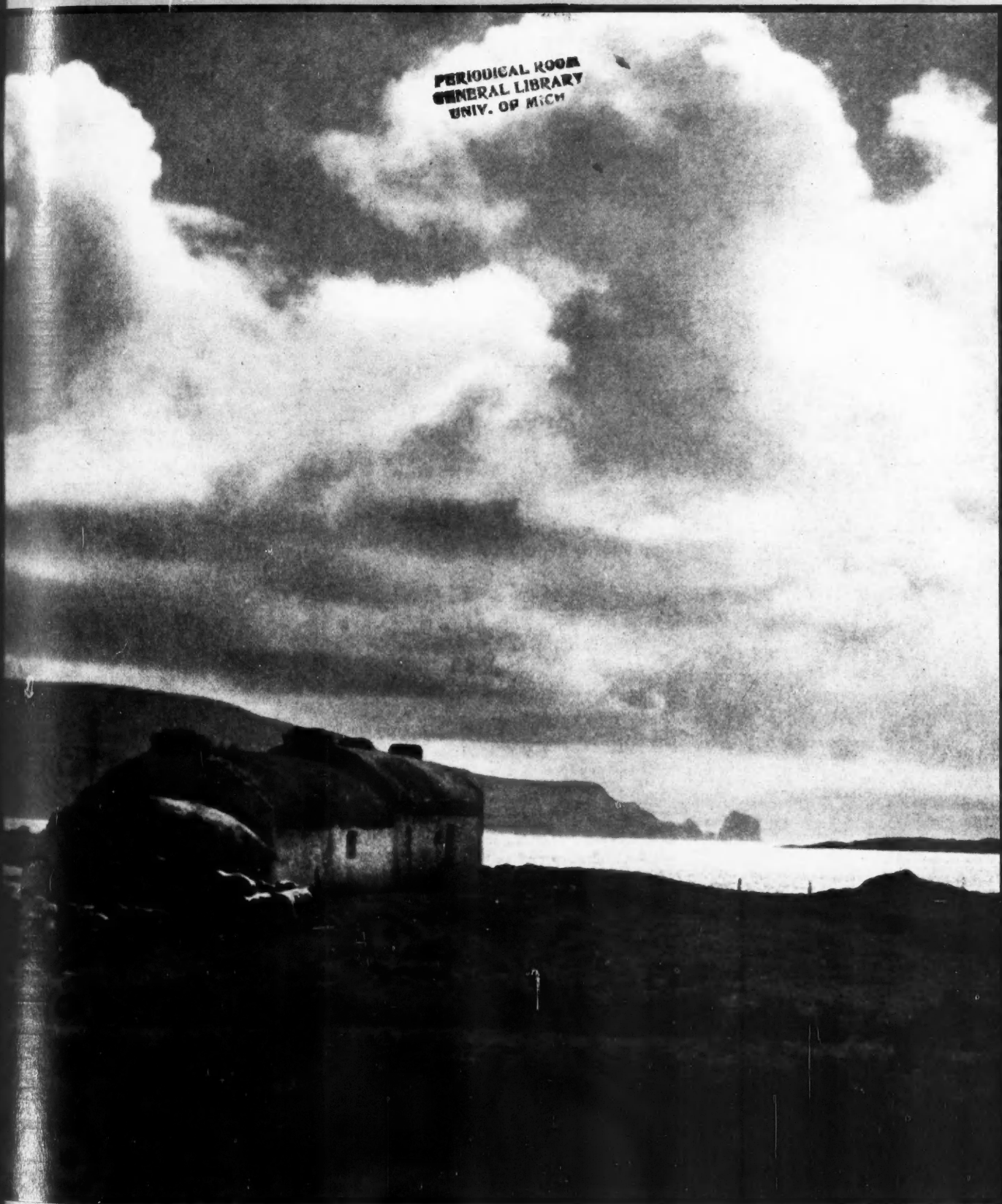
# COUNTRY LIFE

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# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCVI. No. 2499

DECEMBER 8, 1944

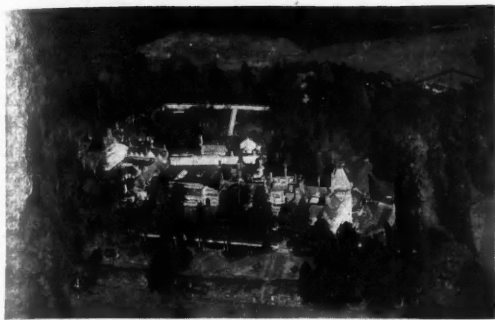
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IN FAULTLESS ORDER. OAK FLOORS. LIGHT OAK PANELLING. MAIN WATER AND MAIN ELECTRICITY. CENTRAL HEATING. AGA COOKER. Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms (all with basins), 3-room nursery suite, 2 bathrooms. Excellent domestic offices, servant's bedroom and sitting room. Gardens, woodland, and pasture.

17 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION £10,000 FREEHOLD

Very strongly recommended. Photographs can be inspected at the London Offices of the Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Land Agents, Yeovil. (T L: 1966)

## WITHIN EASY REACH OF TEWKESBURY & CHELTENHAM

### ATTRACTIVE AND BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF QUEEN ANNE CHARACTER

Having 3 reception rooms, 9 principal and secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, etc.

Domestic offices with Aga cooker. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Telephone.

2 LARGE GARAGES WITH CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT. STABLING.

PLEASANT WALLED GARDEN. 15 ACRES OF PASTURE LAND.

ENTRANCE LODGE.

EARLY POSSESSION.

PRICE FREEHOLD £8,500

IDEALLY SITUATED FOR A COUNTRY CLUB.

Details of Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS, Land Agents, Cirencester. (Tel.: 334)

## CORNWALL

In the heart of the Cornish Riviera where Hunting, Shooting, Trout Fishing, Golf and Sea Bathing are had for the asking. 2 miles from Grampond Road Station (main G.W.R., London, Penzance), 5 St. Austell, 8 Truro.

### A GENTLEMAN FARMER'S LOVELY SMALL ESTATE

MOST PLEASANT GEORGIAN HOUSE, moderate size, perfect order, 8 bedrooms, 4 attic bedrooms, 2 bath, 4 reception, kitchen with Aga, etc.

Simple but attractive garden with rhododendrons, azaleas, etc.

Part central heating. Main electricity. Excellent new water system.

MODEL HOME FARM with accredited cowhouses 30. Splendid Baillif's House, Herdsman's Cottage, Second Farmhouse and buildings. Well-watered pasture, arable and woodlands.

246 ACRES IN ALL

VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £13,500 FREEHOLD

OR MAY BE SOLD WITHOUT THE SECOND FARM.

Very strongly recommended by the Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Land Agents, Yeovil. (Tel.: 1066)

## AMONGST GLOUCESTERSHIRE WOODLANDS

### A COMFORTABLE COUNTRY HOUSE

Well situate in one of the most favoured parts of the County

Having 4 reception rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 2 servants' rooms, 2 bathrooms. Domestic offices with Aga cooker.

Main electricity. Partial central heating. Telephone.

ATTRACTIVE GARDENS.

### SMALL FARMERY OF JUST OVER 20 ACRES

3 COTTAGES.

POSSESSION BY ARRANGEMENT.

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,000

Details of Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS, Land Agents, Cirencester. (Tel.: 334)

## BETWEEN ALDEBURGH AND SAXMUNDHAM

### AN ATTRACTIVE LATE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Standing in its own grounds, well away from the road.

3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Company's electric light. Central heating.

GARAGES. STABLING. COTTAGE.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS, IN ALL ABOUT

3½ ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE at a Moderate Price.

Agents: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Mayfair 3316/7)



Grosvenor 3121  
(3 lines)

## WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

## SURREY

### FOR SALE A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF 21 ACRES

WITH VERY PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER THROUGHOUT.

Stands on high ground with south aspect.

The house contains hall, dining room, drawing room, morning room, smoke room: complete domestic offices, and includes servants' hall, pantry and bedroom. ABOVE approached by two staircases: 12 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. Fitted basins (h. & c.) in all bedrooms.

AGA COOKER. FRIGIDAIRE. WATER SOFTENER. MAIN ELECTRICITY. GAS AND COMPANY'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN DRAINAGE. STABLE AND GARAGE. 2 COTTAGES. LODGE.

THE GROUNDS ARE WELL MATURED AND AFFORD PLENTY OF SHADE. PRETTY FLOWER GARDEN. 2 GRASS TENNIS COURTS. VERY LARGE SWIMMING BATH AND GOOD KITCHEN GARDEN. THE WHOLE PROPERTY EXTENDS TO ABOUT

21 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, WITH POSSESSION

Apply: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

## ESSEX. NEAR CHELMSFORD

On high ground with lovely views.

### A GENUINE TUDOR HOUSE



ON TWO FLOORS ONLY

6 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, box room. Main electric light. Central heating.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS. 4 LOOSE BOXES. COTTAGE. WOODLAND, POND, LAWNS, ETC., extending in all to about

8 ACRES. PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD

WITH VACANT POSSESSION

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.



# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY



## SUFFOLK

About 3½ miles Sudbury, near the River Stour.

A CHARMING XVth CENTURY RESIDENCE possibly earlier

Very attractive interior, heavily beamed, open fireplaces, and oak floors. Stands on gravel sub-soil, enjoying a south and east aspect with rural views.

Large lounge, dining room, 4 bedrooms and bathroom.

Central heating. Own water supply. Modern drainage.  
Electric light mains near. Garage.

GROUPS OF ABOUT ¼ ACRE  
Including kitchen garden and fruit, etc.

PRICE FREEHOLD £23,500 IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Agents: Messrs.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (41,074.)

## BUCKS AND BEDS BORDERS

Convenient for Main Line Station. London just over the hour. Secluded position on outskirts of Village.

XVth-CENTURY RESIDENCE containing 4 reception rooms, 7-8 bedrooms (basins h. & c.), 3 bathrooms.

Central heating. Constant hot water. All Main Services.

Cottage. Squash Court. Garage.

Attractive and inexpensive Gardens, sunk formal garden, tennis and other lawns.

Productive kitchen garden, upwards of 3 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (39,324)



## SOUTH COTSWOLDS

Beautiful part. Near a famous Golf Course and Common. About 1½ miles station, 17 miles Cheltenham, and 12 miles Cirencester.

A QUEEN ANNE and early GEORGIAN COTSWOLD RESIDENCE, stone built and stone tiled, delightful and secluded position. 3 reception rooms, dance or billiard room, loggia, 11 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Central heating. Independent hot-water service. Main electricity.  
Good water supply. Septic Tank Drainage. Telephone.

Garages. Stabling. Cottage and outbuildings.

THE PLEASURE GROUNDS include lawns, herbaceous beds and borders, rock and terrace gardens, tennis court, walled kitchen garden, orchard and meadowland.

ABOUT 10 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Possession by arrangement.

Joint Sole Agents:

Messrs. DAVIS, CHAMPION & PAYNE, 16, Kendrick Street, Stroud, Glos.

Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, London, W.1 (22,557)

Telegrams:

Galleries, Wesdo, London



Mayfair 3771  
(10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

Reading 4441  
Regent 0293/3377

## NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

1, STATION ROAD, READING; 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY W.1

### FAVOURERED RIVERSIDE VILLAGE

On high ground. Close to Station with fast trains to Paddington.

A GENUINE PICTURESQUE GEORGIAN PROPERTY  
FOR SALE

WITH INTERESTING FEATURES. BUILT 1820.

Accommodation: 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, well fitted domestic offices. Coy.'s gas; electric light and power; main water.

DELIGHTFUL OLD-WORLD GROUNDS INCLUDING TENNIS AND OTHER LAWNS. NUMEROUS FRUIT TREES. KITCHEN GARDEN.

In all about 1 ACRE IN EXTENT

Also GENUINE LARGE OLD BARN (about 500 years old) IN GOOD ORDER.  
SUITABLE FOR GARAGE, PLAYROOM, Etc.

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Further particulars of the Sole Agents, as above.

### EAST BERKS

Close to the small residential country town of Wokingham. Under 1 hour from London.  
FOR SALE.

A DELIGHTFUL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE  
COMPRISING

A WELL-APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE

containing 7 principal bedrooms, 3 servants' rooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, lounge hall, cloakroom, usual offices.

2 PICTURESQUE COTTAGES. GARAGE FOR 3.

10 ACRES

INCLUDING CHARMING, WELL-TIMBERED, PLEASING GROUNDS AND MINATURE PARK OF 6 ACRES.

Electric light. Main water. Central heating. Modern drainage.

Apply: Messrs. NICHOLAS, Estate Agents, 1, Station Road, Reading; or Messrs. Skelton & Co., Solicitors, 90, Deansgate, Manchester 3.

## F. L. MERCER & CO.

Regent 2481

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

### BUCKS—GERRARDS CROSS

Overlooking parklands. 35 minutes Marylebone and Baker Street Stations.



MODERN TUDOR STYLE HOME OF CHARACTER. 300 ft. up on gravel soil. Hall, oak-panelled dining room, lounge, study, servants' sitting room, 5 principal bedrooms (fitted wash-basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 servants' rooms. Main services. Central heating. Garage and rooms over. Very fine garden, tennis court, ornamental trees, etc. 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD JUST AVAILABLE. PRICE £27,500 WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

### WILTSHIRE DOWNS

In pretty country town, accessible Westbury and Bath.



A FINE TUDOR COUNTRY HOUSE, modernised, rich in panelling and old-world features. 3 large reception rooms (parquet floors), 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main water. Cottage for gardener. 3 other cottages let at nominal rentals. Nice gardens, orchards and paddock, 5 ACRES. Possession. FREEHOLD £8,000.

F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1.

### DEVON

Glorious southern views over Tavy Valley.



COMFORTABLE MODERN RESIDENCE on western edge of Dartmoor. 1 mile from village and bus. 5 bed, bath, 2 reception. Electric light. 2 garages. Gardens, wood and pasture. 5 ACRES. PRICE £4,100 WITH POSSESSION.

F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1.



# HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1  
Regent 8222 (15 lines)      Telegrams: "Selaniet, Piccoy, London"



SMALL COTSWOLD ESTATE FOR SALE, WITH POSSESSION MARCH 25, NEXT

## NETHERSWELL MANOR, STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

4 reception rooms, billiard room, 10 principal bed and dressing rooms, 6 bathrooms and domestic offices with all modern conveniences.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

6 COTTAGES. MODEL FARM BUILDINGS.



PASTURE AND ARABLE LAND.

IN ALL ABOUT

100 ACRES

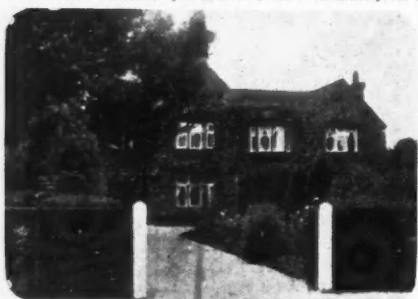
with TROUT FISHING.

THE RESIDENCE, COTTAGES, AND ALL BUILDINGS ARE SUBSTANTIALLY STONE BUILT AND IN FIRST-CLASS STRUCTURAL CONDITION.

For Particulars apply to the Owner's Agents: Messrs. TAYLER & FLETCHER, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos.; or HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222).

## BUCKS

On the outskirts of a Market Town. 45 miles from London. Station ½ mile.



Particulars from HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.) (B.49,070)

### CREEPER-CLAD RESIDENCE

Specially erected for the present occupier.

Hall, 2 reception, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, staff-sitting room, observatory

ALL MAINS SERVICES

CENTRAL HEATING.

GARAGE. BARN.

Matured garden of 1 ACRE

FREEHOLD £4,750

EARLY POSSESSION.

## SUSSEX

500 ft. up. About 2½ miles from Buxted and 12 miles from Tunbridge Wells.

### FOR SALE. CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE

WITH STONE

MULLIONED WINDOWS.

3 reception rooms and

6 bedrooms, all large;

2 bathrooms.

CENTRAL HEATING.

COMPANIES' ELECTRIC

LIGHT AND WATER.

GARAGE.

VERY NICE GROUNDS

AND MEADOWLAND.

In all about 30 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD

£8,000

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)



BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (WIM 0081.)

BISHOP'S STORTFORD (243)

# CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

(1/6 per line. Min. 3 lines.)

## AUCTION

By order of Miss Bayley.

### TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

The Spinney, 3, Lake Road. This charming modern Detached Freehold Residence will be offered for SALE by AUCTION with Vacant Possession at an early date. 2 splendid reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and labour-saving offices. All services. Extremely pretty well-tended garden with greenhouse and woodland glade, about ½ acre. Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the Vendor's Solicitor: D. W. Harrison, Esq., Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea; or from the Joint Auctioneers:

RODERICK T. INNES

Crowborough, or Messrs. R. C. MARCHANT AND CO., 56, High Street, Tunbridge Wells.

## FOR SALE

**BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.** Modern Sun-trap 6-roomed Bungalow, large garden. Alternative accommodation wanted—6-roomed old Country Cottage (not modernised), facing S.W. The West or West Midlands. Abut. £500.—Box 356.

**BOURNEMOUTH.** A central-located Furnished House for sale, modern, detached. 4 bedrooms with h. & c. basins, cloaks in hall, brick garage, concrete paths in garden. Very good quality furniture. Near beach.—51, Hengistbury Road, Bournemouth (Tel.: Southbourne 2007).

**CAMBRIDGE.** Exors. sale. Unique detached Family Residence. 4 reception rooms, studio, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, vineyard and a picturesque old-world garden. Possession January.—Full details from: GRAY SOX AND COOK, 29, St. Andrews Street, Cambridge (Tel. 4455).

**DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM'S** (9 miles from Bournemouth). Attractive Residence. 4 main, 2 secondary bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, double garage. Charming garden 1½ acres. Immediate possession. Main drainage. Buses pass. £4,000, or Auction Sale December 11.—Auctioneers: RUMSEY & RUMSEY, Broadstone.

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE.** For sale, freehold, substantially built brick Family Residence, pleasantly situated in small and picturesque country town, 9 miles Gloucester. Suitable for business home, nursing home, private school, convent, or for flats. 7 minutes' walk from railway station. Accommodation on three floors with cellars below. Large inner hall extending to lantern light in roof with staircase round, off which rooms lead. 4 reception rooms (drawing room 30 ft. by 18 ft.), 10 bedrooms, kitchen, scullery, etc. Gas, stabling, brick-built, garage and other outbuildings. At present let on quarterly lease.—Price £4,500.—Apply: Box 398.

## FOR SALE

**IRELAND.** Gentleman's Country Residence. First-class repair. Large new Aga cooker installed. Good stabling, garage and outbuildings with 105 acres attached. River Moy runs through land. Excellent salmon and trout fishing. Rough shooting. Situated 1 mile from prosperous West Ireland port town. Railway and bus service. Convenient. Price £4,500 or nearest offer.—Apply: Box 350, EASON'S ADVERTISING SERVICE, Dublin.

**MARLOW** (above). 300 ft. up in lovely country. Modestly luxurious Country House, beautifully decorated and up to date in every way with complete central heating. Grounds 5 acres. Gallered lounge hall, 3 reception and exceptional billiards, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Staff accommodation has separate entrance and is self-contained with living-room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. Good secondary residence (4 rooms and bathroom). Garages, outbuildings and glass. The whole with vacant possession. To be sold freehold, price £10,500. Photographs and plan of the Owner's Agents: DUDLEY W. HARRIS & CO., 136-140, High Street, Staines; and at Egham, Sunbury and Feltham.

**SUFFOLK** (4 miles coast). Gentleman's Residential Farming Estate, 585 acres, very rich land, fine old Jacobean residence, good sporting, ample cottages, excellent buildings including modern cowhouse for 122. Freehold, including live and dead stock and tenant right, £30,000. Early possession. Extra 500 acres available if desired.—Sole Agents, WOODROCK & SON, Ipswich.

**SUSSEX.** Overlooking golf course, 4 miles Three Bridges. Very attractive Modern Residence. 5 bedrooms, bath, 2 reception, cloakroom, maid's room, good offices. Main electricity and water. Nice garden, 1 acre. £5,500.—Apply: RACKHAM & SMITH, 31, Carfax, Horsham (Tel.: Horsham 311).

**FOR SALE by order of Executors.** **SUSSEX, EAST.** Enjoying wonderful views to the South Downs. Almost adjoining renowned Golf Course. Approached by a Lych Gate through avenue of May Trees. CHOICE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE built in the style of the Tudor period with contemporary oak joinery and fittings. In splendid order and labour saving in every degree. All on two floors. Fine lounge, drawing and dining rooms, easily worked domestic offices, 7 bedrooms (some fitted lavatory basins), 2 bathrooms. Main services connected, also central heating. Double garage. Greenhouses and other outbuildings. Very unique gardens upon which a great deal of money has been spent, tennis lawn, rose and formal gardens, kitchen garden and paddock about 2½ acres. Price £9,000. Freehold, with Vacant Possession. Fully recommended in every way by the Executors' Agent RODERICK T. INNES, Estate Office, Crowborough, Sussex. Tel. 46.

## FOR SALE

Only just available.

**SUSSEX, EAST.** In a picked position on the outskirts most favoured small residential town, close to golf and enjoying most carefully kept and well established gardens, with small paddock, and orchard about 3 acres. Most attractively designed Freehold Residence, facing South. Lounge, 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and compact offices. Electricity and other services. Most useful outbuildings and double garage. Vacant Possession March 1945, possibly little earlier. £6,750 Freehold, at which this property is unhesitatingly recommended by the Owner's Agent as an opportunity to acquire a residence in this particular area seldom arising.—RODERICK T. INNES, Estate Office, Crowborough, S. Sussex. Tel. 46.

By order of the Owner.

**SUSSEX, CROWBOROUGH.** With panoramic views. In excellent order. A comfortable Freehold Residence. 3 reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, and well arranged offices. Main services. Garage with loose box, and other outbuildings. Really attractive gardens with tennis lawn, kitchen garden, small orchard and paddock, about 5 acres. Price, freehold, £5,500. Vacant Possession June, 1945.—RODERICK T. INNES, Estate Office, Crowborough, S. Sussex. Tel. 46.

**SUTTON, SURREY.** Attractive and well-built Residence in excellent decorative condition. 7 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiard room, 2 bathrooms. Garage and chauffeur's flat. Central heating. Garden ½ acre. Vacant possession. Freehold, £5,500.—Recommended by Sole Agents: TREVOR ESTATES, 20, Piccadilly, W.1 (Tel. 3571).

## TO LET

**MORDIFORD**, situated on the banks of the River Lugg, adjoining village of Mordiford, 4 miles from Hereford. The Old Rectory. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 3 attic rooms, 2 bathrooms and lavatories. Kitchen with Esse cooker. Electric light from modern plant. Outbuildings include barn, cowhouse, stable, pigsty, etc. Walled-in garden. Also small vacant Cottage in village. Another Cottage and 5 acres pasture and orchard adjoining could be rented.—Apply: COOKE & ARK-WRIGHT, Chartered Land Agents, Midland Bank Chambers, Hereford.

**WARWICKSHIRE** (3 miles Shipston-on-Stour). Burnington Chase, to let furnished from December 1. Entrance hall, dining and drawing rooms, kitchen, 4 bedrooms and dressing room, 2 attic bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. Telephone. No electricity or gas. Orchard and garden. Rent £4 4s. per week.—Apply: BOSLEY & HARPER, Shipston-on-Stour (Tel. 2).

## WANTED

**BOURNEMOUTH** (within 30 miles). Good Farmhouse. 4-6 bedrooms, 40 to 100 acres. Possession by arrangement. Private purchaser will pay good price.—Box 400.

**BOURNEMOUTH** (within 15 miles). Wanted, small Country House, easy up-keep outside and in. Main electricity. About 6 bed and 3 sitting rooms. Possession Summer 1945. Moderate price.—Box 397.

**BUCKS or OXON.** Wanted to rent for 6 months. Furnished or Unfurnished Cottage or Bungalow.—Mrs. TURNER, County End, Chinnor Hill, Oxon.

**CORNWALL, DEVON, DORSET, SUMMERSET.** Wanted for occupation April-May. Modernised House. 6-8 bedrooms, 3 reception, main water and electric supply. Near main road. Suitable guest-house, post-war tea gardens. Up to 100 acres. Photograph and full details to: HITCHINS, Kincora, West Elm Road, Kirkella, E. Yorks.

**CORNWALL.** Required for immediate or post-war occupation, a Gentleman's House with 6 bedrooms, in sheltered position overlooking the sea. No objection to one or two cottages and land up to 50 acres. Vicinity of Falmouth, Helford River or Fowey preferred, but Dartmouth or Salcombe would be considered.—Particulars in confidence from agents or principals will be appreciated by JOLLY AND SON LTD., 10, Milson Street, Bath.

**LONDON** (within 50 miles). Small house of character. 4 or more bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. 2 acres upwards. A high rental will be paid for suitable property. Long lease preferred. Social and business references available prior to formal negotiations.—Box 399.

**LONDON** (30-60 miles) or on WELSH BORDER wanted. Fishing in district advantage. Country House, to purchase or rent. 4-5 bed, main services, 2 acres. Immediate possession not essential.—"G/C.J." TRESDIDER & Co., 77, South Audley St., W.1.

**PENBROKESHIRE** (S.W.). Urgently wanted to rent. House, any size. Large gardens or up to 10-15 acres of land. 5 or 7 years lease with option of purchase or renewal. Norfolk or Suffolk considered.—MARSON, Thornton House, Milford Haven, Pembroke-shire.

**SOUTHERN ENGLAND.** Small House wanted to purchase for a retiring City man. 3 bedrooms, piece of ground, main drainage, not too expensive, preferably near sea or river but not necessarily near station. Any time now or early next year.—Please write: W. LONDON, The Glen, Thornhill Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey.

**WEST or WEST MIDLANDS.** Old Country Cottage, facing S.W., 6 rooms. Not modernised. About £500.—Box 396.



Regent  
4304

## OSBORN &amp; MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,  
PICCADILLY, W.1

## LOVELY OLD PERIOD HOUSE IN KENT

In beautiful well-wooded country near the sea and between the Parklands of two large Estates.

A WEALTH OF OLD-WORLD FEATURES YET UP-TO-DATE WITH MODERN REQUIREMENTS



Large hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main Services.

Central heating.

Guest House (4 bedrooms).

Outbuildings.

Picturesque old-world gardens with lawns, flower gardens, kitchen garden. Running stream with waterfalls. 2 paddocks. In all

ABOUT 8 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER, as above. (16,573)

## A CHARMING OLD-WORLD COTTAGE IN NORTHANTS

This delightful little property, which is in first-class order throughout, has been modernised but still retains its old and interesting features.

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity, excellent water supply, modern drainage.

Garage.

Pony stable.

The Garden, although small, is well laid out with lawns, stone-flagged paths, flower beds, etc.

FREEHOLD £3,500

VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER, as above. (M.2419)

## EAST SUSSEX

Beautifully situated some 400 ft. up, commanding panoramic views of the Downs and Sea.

LOVELY OLD ELIZABETHAN HOUSE Brought to Modern Standards of Comfort and Luxury

4 reception, 11 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms.

Main electricity.

Central heating.

First-class

Water supply.

Cottage.

Garage for 6 cars.

Delightful well-maintained gardens, including kitchen garden, soft fruit, fully stocked orchards, En Tout Cas Tennis Court, Magnificent Swimming Pool.

Pasture and Arable. In all

NEARLY 28 ACRES

More Land Available if Required.

PRICE FREEHOLD, £11,000

Would be Sold Fully Furnished.

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER, as above. (17,475)

## BUCKS

Between Aylesbury and Buckingham. Convenient for Main Line Station to London.

Sheltered situation in rural country. For Sale.

AN UP-TO-DATE COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER.



Main electricity and water. Central heating.

Lounge hall, 3 reception, dozen bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Hunter Stabling. Farmery. 3 Cottages.

Very Pleasant Gardens. Excellent Pasture.

Hard Tennis Court. Squash Court.

24 ACRES

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER. Inspected and highly recommended. (16,730)

Grosvenor 1553  
(4 lines)

## GEORGE TROLLOPE &amp; SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
68, Victoria St.,  
Westminster, S.W.1.

## SUSSEX, fringe of market town

1½ miles of a station. 31 miles of London.



## EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR A SCHOOL.

22 bed, 6 baths, 6 reception, well equipped offices with servants' hall. Electric light, good water supply, modern drainage. Central and domestic heating. GARAGE. STABLE. PLAY ROOM. PAVILION. COTTAGE. LODGE. BUNGALOW.

The pleasure grounds include 2 hard tennis courts, putting course, kitchen garden with glass.

In all about

30 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

SUBJECT TO REQUISITION.

Further particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE &amp; SONS, 25, Mount St., London, W.1. (D.2647)

## SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL, INSTITUTION, ETC.

## EXCEPTIONAL BARGAIN IN THE WEST COUNTRY

Somerset. Magnificent views over Bristol Channel.

## HANDSOME STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

approached by winding drive, and containing large hall with gallery landing, 5 reception, 10 bed, 2 baths, good offices. Electric light, central heating, gas, main water, modern drainage.

PICTURESQUE AND INEXPENSIVE GARDENS, (sloping towards the Channel with woodland walks, lodge, stabling, garages, and useful set of farm buildings; excellent pasture fields; in all



24½ ACRES

Early possession by arrangement.

Inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE &amp; SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (A 7288)

3, MOUNT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1

## RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR

Grosvenor  
1032-33

## RICKMANSWORTH AND MOOR PARK

400 ft. up. Station 1 mile.

## ARCHITECTURALLY DESIGNED HOUSE (GEORGIAN STYLE)

of particular charm. Labour-saving to a last degree. 3 reception, 6 bed, dressing room, bath. All main services connected. Central heating. Brick-built garage. Wooded grounds of about 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD, £8,600. Possession by arrangement.

Apply: RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, W.1.

## LITTLE-KNOWN ESSEX

About a mile from the Hertfordshire border. Convenient for Stations with fast rail services. 35 minutes.

## UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE LITTLE HOUSE,

Georgian in style, in quiet hamlet, right off the beaten track. 2 large sitting rooms, modern kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bath. Main electricity and water. Electric cooking. Outbuildings and garage. Well stocked garden. Orchard. Cabin (for gardener). Paddock. ABOUT 3 ACRES. FREEHOLD, £4,350. Early possession.

Owner's authorised Agents: RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, W.1.

## WITHIN THE GREEN BELT

Potters Bar 3 miles—Station 1 mile.



ARCHITECT-BUILT (1933). Green pantiled roof. 500 ft. up, magnificent views (South-west). 2 good reception, 5 bedrooms. Polished floors. Main electricity and water. Radiators. 2 garages. TERRACED GARDEN, spinney of oaks and pines, about 1 ACRE. Valuable road frontages. FREEHOLD, £5,500. Vacant Possession.

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In a delightful situation on fringe of village.

CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE dating back to 17th century. Completely redecorated and in first-class order. 4 beds, bath (modern appointments), 3 reception, tiled kitchen. Main electricity and power. Ample water supply. Septic tank drainage. Garage, stabling. Matured and well stocked garden. FREEHOLD, ONLY £3,500. POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.

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## BETWEEN OXSHOTT AND COBHAM

1 mile Station, 19 miles London.

## FINE MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER.

In first-class order. 5 beds (4 with fitted basins h. &amp; c.), dressing room, 2 baths, 3 reception. Central heating and all main services. Double garage with room over. Sandy soil. Attractive matured garden. Tennis court and woodland. ABOUT 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD, £7,000. Immediate possession.

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500 ft. up, commanding a glorious prospect over the undulating Weald of Sussex.

## A CHOICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF OVER 30 ACRES

of charming gardens, woodlands and grassland, together with a Country House of moderate size, but with large rooms. Spacious drawing and dining rooms, large study, 6 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fine offices, maids' sitting-room. Garage for 2 cars. RADIA-TORS throughout. ELECTRIC LIGHT and power from company. EXCEEDINGLY PRETTY GARDENS, YEW HEDGES, LAWNS, HUT, KITCHEN GARDENS, etc. Excellent carriage drive with handsome wrought-iron Entrance Gates.

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## ELGIN HOUSE, KNOCKHOLT, KENT.

In a beautiful country district, 3 miles from Knockholt Station and 6 miles from Sevenoaks. On high ground. OLD-FASHIONED COTTAGE RESIDENCE, up-to-date, with central heating throughout, main electric light, gas and water. 4 sitting-rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 modern bathrooms, 2 attics or boxrooms, etc. Garage, stabling, man's room over. Old-established garden with large trees, lawns, kitchen garden, etc. In all about 2 ACRES. Vacant possession on cessation of hostilities with Germany. MAPLE &amp; Co. are instructed to sell the above by PUBLIC AUCTION at the LONDON AUCTION MART, 155, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C., on DECEMBER 13.

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About 16 miles from Town. Short bus ride from Electric Train.

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IN THE COTTAGE STYLE, BRICK AND TILE. PARTLY CREEPER-CLAD. NICE OLD-WORLD GARDEN.

Small lounge-hall, drawing-room about 19 ft. by 17 ft., dining-room, study, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, good offices with tiled floors.

Electric light. Gas laid on.

GARDEN INCLUDES LAWN, FRUIT TREES, SMALL KITCHEN GARDEN, ETC.

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Exceptional opportunity to purchase, owing to death of owner.



**A DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE** in capital order. 7 bedrooms, hall, and 2 reception rooms (one 30ft. long); main electricity and water; garage and buildings; 2 cottages; gardens, orchard and paddock. **5 ACRES.**

WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

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**BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER** in first-rate order. Polished oak floors. Basins in bedrooms. Main services, etc. 8 beds, 3 baths, lounge hall 3 reception. Garage. Excellent cottage. Lovely gardens with Hard Court, paddock, etc. **£10,000 WITH 6 ACRES.** Possession 1945.—Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

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**A CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE** in finely timbered grounds. 10 beds, 4 baths, 4 reception. Electric light, etc. Stabling, garage. Cottage. Hard court. Paddock and woodland. For sale with post-war possession.

**ONLY £8,500 WITH 12½ ACRES**

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*A rare opportunity, absolutely unspoilt.*

**SUSSEX.** Close picturesque village 3½ miles Battle, Hastings 7. **Fascinating Black-and-White Early Tudor Residence.** 3 reception, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (including maids' suite). Companies' electricity and gas. Central heating. Charming gardens and grounds, **3½ ACRES.** Garages, cowshed, etc. Possession within one year. **FREEHOLD, £10,000.** Inspected by Sole Agents: Woodcocks, 30, St. George Street, W.1 (Mayfair 5411).

*Superb Unspoilt Views.*

**NEAR SUSSEX COAST. CENTURIES OLD HOUSE OF SINGULAR CHARM.** 4 reception, 7 bedrooms, bath, central heating, main electricity and water. Farm buildings, 2 cottages and **60 ACRES** (5 woodland). Unique setting with trout fishing and boating close by. A real gem at **£8,500.** Possession Spring or Autumn. Woodcocks, 30, St. George Street, W.1 (Mayfair 5411).

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Easy daily access of London. 2 miles from Standon Station, whence London is reached in just over the hour, 9 miles from Bishop's Stortford and Hertford, and 29 from London.

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30, ST. GEORGE STREET,  
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1  
Mayfair 5411

### COUNTRY HOUSES WANTED

**PEER SEEKS MODERN OR MODERNISED RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER.** 3-4 reception, 8 bedrooms, etc., with at least **10 ACRES WOODLANDS, PASTURE.** Cotswolds liked. Will pay **£10,000-£12,000.**—"R." c/o WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1 (Mayfair 5411).

**DORSET, DEVON OR CORNWALL HUNTING COUNTRY.** Lady seeks Manor or Dower House, 3 reception, 6-8 bedrooms with up to about **25 ACRES** or more land if lettable. Must have Stabling and 2 Cottages. **GOOD PRICE PAID.**—"Mrs. H. H. A." c/o WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1 (Mayfair 5411).

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*In an attractive situation. About 22 miles from London.*

### MODERN HOUSE

5 bedrooms, bathroom, 4 reception rooms.

COMPANIES' ELECTRICITY AND WATER

MODERN DRAINAGE



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In all nearly

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**PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD**

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MARKET PLACE, SIDMOUTH

### EAST DEVON

**DELIGHTFUL OLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE**, in park grounds of 14 acres. Magnificent open situation, near charming village. Easy for access to Sidmouth, within few miles of Exeter. Modern amenities, excellent cottage. Post-war possession. **£7,500 FREEHOLD**, or with 2 very nice secondary residences (at present let)—all in a ring fence—at **£10,500.**

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**A FINELY PROPORTIONED MODERN RESIDENCE** in about 1 acre garden. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 8 bed, 2 bath. Excellent position. **FREEHOLD, £6,500** or might be leased at **£300 PER ANNUM.**

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Within easy reach of Sidmouth. **A GEORGIAN RESIDENCE OF MERIT.** 3 reception, 6 bed, 2 bath. Aga cooker. Electricity. Grounds (on greensand soil) of about **2½ ACRES.** **£7,500** (no offers).

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*On bus route and close to Station.*

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ON SANDY SOIL. APPROACHED BY LONG DRIVE WITH LODGE.

Good hall, 3 large reception rooms, 12-13 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms.

Main electricity, water and gas. Central heating throughout.

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ONLY £12,000 FREEHOLD

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PART THATCHED AND TILED.

3 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 attics. Main light, ample water.  
GARAGE. GARDEN. STABLE.

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### MODERNISED SMALL TUDOR FARMHOUSE

3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main light. Good water and drainage.

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2 PADDOCKS.

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THOROUGHLY MODERNISED AND IN GOOD DECORATIVE ORDER.

8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Garage for 3 cars. Central heating. Electric light. Aga cooker.

ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS, HARD TENNIS COURT. 2 COTTAGES (1 VACANT), BOTH WITH ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER.

75 ACRES (of which 50 acres are beautiful woodland).

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Hall, 3 sitting rooms, compact domestic offices, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, storage attics. Granary (could be converted to bedroom). Garage and outhouses. Main electric light and power, good water supply. Telephone. Pretty little pleasure garden, vegetable and fruit gardens, and large orchard.

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THE PROPERTY EXTENDS IN ALL TO APPROXIMATELY 82 ACRES  
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*Didcot Station 2½ miles.*

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2 sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. All main services, gas. Telephone. Part central heating. Garage and outbuildings. Small garden.

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SOUTH COTSWOLDS  
175 ACRES  
£6,000  
REAL BARGAIN

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BUILT IN THE DUTCH STYLE.  
In absolutely perfect order with parquet floors, oak and brick fireplaces, etc. Central heating. Fitted basins and all main services. Hall, 2 reception, 5 bed, bath. Garage for 2 cars.  
MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDENS. Exhibition standard roses and carnations. Extensive rockeries of choicest alpine. Paved terraces, tennis lawn, miniature 9-hole putting green. Large fully stocked kitchen garden. Soft fruit in prime condition and orchard of 100 trees, together with paddock.

3½ ACRES. POSSESSION. FREEHOLD  
This charming property is only just offered. Is certain to be sold quickly. Your immediate inspection is advised.

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£2,500

NEAR MACCLESFIELD. Gentleman's fascinating Freehold Elizabethan-style Cottage Residence amidst lovely surroundings, built in old-toned red brick, containing large hall, 2 reception, 2 or 3 bed, bath, main electric light, telephone, diamond-paned windows, etc., brick garage, charming garden, orchard and paddock, 1½ acres, all in perfect condition, together with the beneficial long lease of a scientifically laid-out market garden of 7 acres held at £25 p.a. Unique offer, certain to be sold immediately. Grand opportunity for an ex-Service man. Apply Sole Agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDREY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).

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ENTRANCE LODGE AND 2  
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85 ACRES

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**BEAUTIFUL HALF-TIMBERED 15th-CENTURY RESIDENCE**, commanding lovely views over  
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In quiet seclusion yet within a mile of Station.

RESIDENCE ON THE SURREY  
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3 reception, 5 bedrooms (fitted basins), 1 dressing room, bathroom, etc. 2 garages. All mains. Central heating.

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STONE-BUILT CHARACTER  
RESIDENCE

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GARAGE FOR 2 CARS. CHAUFFEUR'S COTTAGE.

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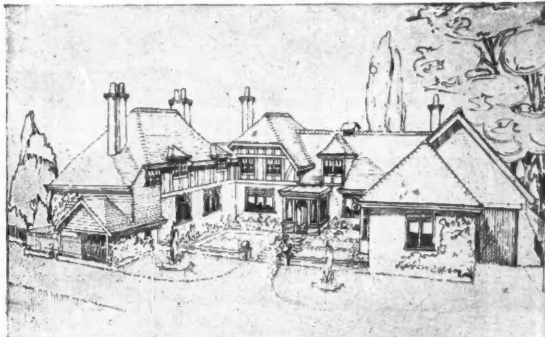
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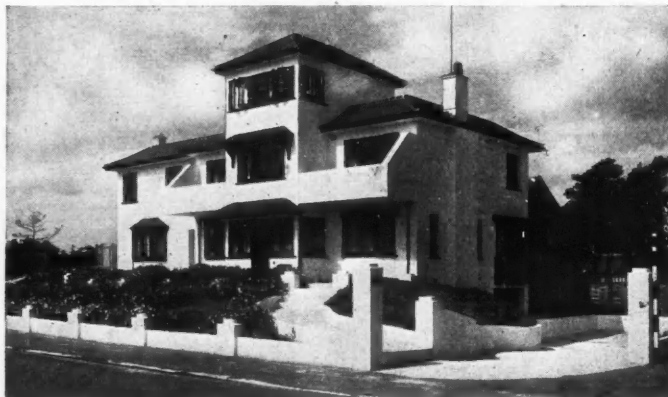
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**9 ACRES**

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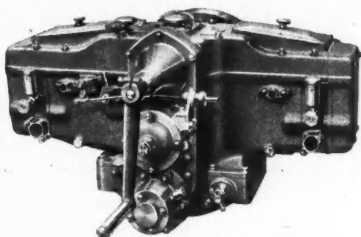
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***"I wish you were!"***



# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCVI. No. 2499

DECEMBER 8, 1944



*Harlip*

## MISS ELEANOR KERANS

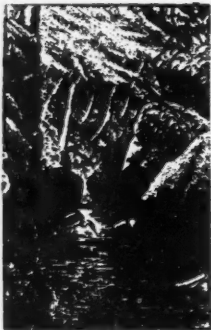
Miss Kerans, daughter of the late Colonel and Mrs. P. Kerans, is a niece of Lieutenant-General Sir Willoughby Norrie, the new Governor of Southern Australia, and is going with his family to Australia, where she hopes to do war work

## COUNTRY LIFE

EDITORIAL OFFICES:  
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## SLOUGH, LLEYN, AND WOOLWORTHS

THE connection between a great Government depot of the last war, the peninsula at the north-west corner of Wales, and a famous chain store, is that each stands for a case in which a corporate interest has conflicted with an even larger social interest, namely the use and aspect of our land. When retrenchment was the cry after the last war, a large dump of surplus stores, formed on rich farming land near Slough, was sold in lots for industrial development, without restrictions, plan, or relationship to public needs. The result was a colossal blot on the face of England, caused by the central Government acting hastily without responsibility to the long-term interests of either the district or the country as a whole, and it was agreed that such a thing must never be allowed to occur again.

The Lleyn peninsula, the "holy land" of Wales, was portrayed in a recent article in COUNTRY LIFE. At the beginning of this war the Admiralty compulsorily acquired a coastal strip near Pwllheli for a camp which it has now sold by secret contract, without consultation with local authorities or Parliamentary representatives, to a private liability company for the purpose of a popular holiday camp. We are not concerned here with the pros and cons of holiday camps in general or of this one in particular. It is this recurrence of the Slough mentality in Whitehall that is so alarming, at the very time when the Government was sponsoring a Town and Country Planning measure laying very considerable restrictions on local authorities and individuals. The case opens up a limitless prospect of chaos. All over the country are camps, aerodromes, factory sites, battle schools similarly commandeered by the War Department, on precious stretches of the coast and on no less precious arable land. What assurance can we now have that each or any of them will not be sold to the most pressing purchaser, without the community, or apparently the Planning Ministry, having the slightest say in the use to which they will be put? It has been stated, on behalf of the Admiralty, that the Lleyn site will not be used as a holiday camp without the sanction of the Minister of Town and Country Planning. But, now that the deal is done, on what principle is the Minister to refuse sanction, in the absence of any national plan specifying to the contrary? He can only invoke the popular clamour aroused in Wales by publication of a transaction that should obviously have been sanctioned—or prohibited—by the Minister before, not after, it had taken place.

The whole deplorable episode illustrates vividly the conflict that exists, and that will undoubtedly arise with increasing frequency in the change-over from war to peace adminis-

tration, between corporate interests and those of the individuals composing the community living on the spot. In the last resort they are soluble only by mutual agreement. It is pleasant to be able to turn to an instance where such agreement has been reached. One of the prime causes of monotony, and so of disfigurement, in the streets of country towns has been the insistence of chain stores on reproducing their standard façade and fascia identically on each of their branches, irrespective of the architectural character of the street. Wide-spread dismay was aroused by the acquisition of the fine old Georgian Clarendon Hotel in the Cornmarket, Oxford, by Woolworths, and the prospect, as recently described by the Undergraduate Council, of its "wanton transformation." Under the new Planning Act it might be possible, if the Clarendon were one of the Ministry's "listed buildings," for its conversion into a chain store to be at least controlled. However, Messrs. Woolworth have creditably, and wisely, bent to the coming storm, thereby we hope establishing a precedent that all chain stores will note. The new store is to have a gothic elevation, apparently to meet the wishes of the Oxford city engineer and Preservation Trust. Why a modern gothic building (surely unnecessarily inappropriate for this particular purpose?) in a Georgian street, we do not know. But Messrs. Woolworth's gesture is to be warmly welcomed, and we suggest that the precise style of gothic used should be, in memory of the countless streets already murdered by corporate interests, that of the Martyrs' Memorial.

## "NO FIELDS OF AMARANTH"

I HAD forgotten  
The lovely cadences of your voice—forgotten  
The music that was more than words to me,  
So that at times I would lose the sense of your speech

Through too much hearkening to the sound of it.

Echo

Whither have travelled now those deep vibrations?  
Into what void of space, what frozen void  
Lost to all human ken?

And in my memory

Lost, overlaid by years of trivial being!  
But sometimes, suddenly, one word is evocative,  
As to me, idly glancing through a journal,  
Leaped from the printed page the word Camasunary,

Not as a word, but as a sound—your voice  
Speaking it casually on that Skye seashore,  
Distant in place and time, far away  
Across a tract of years.

And only then

Sharply, I knew how much I had forgotten,  
Hearing so near, so clear, your grave sweet tones  
With their unconscious music on the syllables.

There are no voices (truly thou hast it, Landor)  
No voices, however tuneful, of which the echo  
Is not silent at the last.

A. V. STUART.

## CHURCHILL

IT is premature, if only by the Prime Minister's precept, to be thinking of commemorations. Yet the tributes that have been paid to Mr. Churchill on the occasion of his seventieth birthday have served to reinforce the conviction that as man, leader, and architect of victory, Britons will long desire to honour and cherish his name. The reshaping of London in consequence of the war should afford some apt opportunity of for ever associating his inspiration with the phoenix city. By what name more apt, descriptively and figuratively, than Churchill could the projected opening from St. Paul's Cathedral to the river be called? Every plan for the City's reconstruction incorporates this vista, ascending the hill to the church; a proposal of much merit made in COUNTRY LIFE suggests it as the site for the National War Memorial. In any case it will require a name and, by its nature, an inspiring one. Indeed it is difficult, having once thought of it, to conceive it by any name but Churchill.

## THE LONG-RANGE PIG

IN an address to the Farmers' Club Mr. H. R. Davidson asked whether the pig industry is again to expand or merely to "tick over." Before

that can be settled we must be told how the country's national and international trade policy is to be controlled. Producers and curers must not only agree together, but must consult on level terms with other industrial interests here and with primary producers overseas. Meanwhile Mr. Davidson points out dangers arising from the fact that British factories have been prevented from putting high quality bacon on our market while Dominion factories have been encouraged by our Government and subsidised by their own to do exactly that thing with the obvious result, if not the intention, of destroying confidence in home-produced bacon. Sooner or later, in all these discussions, we get down to the question of pork, and it is not surprising to find Mr. Davidson asking that the three Boards coming out of cold storage should be allowed to commit *hara-kiri* as soon as decently possible and then be replaced by a Pig Industry Board representing the interests of pork as well as those of bacon. An expansionist programme in pig-raising is supposed to be forbidden by the lack of dollars to purchase feeding-stuffs. How then, asks Mr. Davidson, are we to find dollars to purchase bacon seeing that it takes more exchange to buy a million hundredweight of bacon than the feeding-stuffs needed to produce an equivalent amount here?

## THE SCHOOLS COME HOME

IT is one of the cheering signs of the times that the schools from in or near London which had to be evacuated to new homes are gradually returning. We are told that Westminster will probably come home from Bromyard in time for the Summer term and that Felsted will exchange Ross-on-Wye for their own Essex in the new year. Most of the Box-and-Cox arrangements such as that of Marlborough and the City of London, Tonbridge and Dulwich and so on, have already ended, though Malvern are still at Harrow. This last is one of the few examples of a western school having to move eastwards. In general the trend has been the other way; the West of England has been a city of refuge for many and must have given many war-time schoolboys a permanent affection for it. It was not of course only the London schools that had to move, for Clifton was too near to perilous Bristol, and three Kentish schools, Dover and the two at Canterbury, had to make the western exodus. One of the obvious reflections which make us realise the dreadful length of the war is that in a number of schools a whole generation of boys will have known their school only in its temporary surroundings, so that traditional fields and buildings are to them only names. They have had other pleasant things in exchange, but they have had this loss which can never be made good.

## THE WEATHER PROPHETS

HAVING been necessarily starved for news of the weather for nearly five long years we are now allowed to know a little more about it and take a passionate interest in it because it means so much to our men in their crucial battle. Because cold weather showed signs of setting in early in November many people prophesied that the Winter would be a severe one, but the secretary of the Royal Meteorological Society has been telling them that this is really no more evidence than what the soldier said; several of the coldest of recent Winters have followed on mild Novembers and there is really very little to go on. Another remark of Mr. Hawke's is that our ill-founded belief in the more severe Winters of older days is chiefly based on the works of Dickens, and further that Dickens's childhood happened to coincide with a series of rigorous Winters. This is extremely interesting and something to be extremely grateful for, if indeed we owe Mr. Scrooge and the Christmas doings at Dingley Dell to an accident of the weather. But it is at least arguable that Dickens had such a red-hot glowing furnace of cheerfulness inside him, such an innate love of snugness and such an instinctive pleasure in the contrast between a roaring fire within and a roaring wind without that if he had had no early experience of hard Winters he would gaily have invented them.





J. Hardman

THE CONISTON FOXHOUNDS AT TROUTBECK THIS SEASON

## A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

IN one of our leading Sunday newspapers there is an interesting correspondence on the appearance of both the lion and the leopard on the Royal Arms, and there is the suggestion that originally only the lion was intended, the leopard having crept in later through some draughtsman's error. It is generally accepted that the lion was adopted as a heraldic device by the Crusaders in Palestine, but there is a certain amount of doubt if the animal existed in that country in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, and the confusion about the lion and the leopard may have been due to the Arab habit of being very slipshod about the correct nomenclature of animals, particularly the indigenous leopard.

The correct Arabic word for the lion is *saba*; for the tiger—*nimr*; and for the leopard—*fahad*. To-day, when only the leopard exists, the Arab refers to it usually as the tiger, occasionally as the lion, and only very rarely gives it the correct name of *fahad*.

\* \* \*

ONE can imagine that when *Sieur Piers de Comyn* sat over the mead with his ancient war-time comrade, *Sieur Joyce de Warenne*, talking about their good old Crusader days, *Sieur Piers* would mention how, during an armistice, he had taken part in a lion hunt at *Ramleh* with that sporting Saracen M.L.H.—*Saladin*—in charge of hounds; "and, Gad, what a horseman he was!"

"Thirty minutes' run, straight as a die over cactus fences, before we killed our lion. Nothing of the sort now with that fellow *Baldwin* in command. My son writes me that farmers are shooting lions with cross-bows!"

"Leopards, old chap," *Sieur Joyce* would say. "No such thing as a lion in the Holy Land."

"Damn it, man—*Saladin* himself told me it was a lion."

"Fine huntsman as he was that fellow knew nothing whatsoever about zoology, and, moreover, he did not know his own language. I, myself, have heard him talk about the same animal as a tiger, but you can take it from me that the beast you killed was an ordinary leopard. We had a first-class natural historian on our Divisional Staff in those days, and he was quite firm on this point."

As nothing *Sieur Joyce* could say would ever convince *Sieur Piers*, and *vice versa*, the draughtsmen and stone-carvers of feudal times put the two animals on heraldic shields to suit both parties, and, where space did not permit this, evolved a creature that was a hybrid, and might be either. One had to be most tactful in those days of swift strokes with the two-handed sword, which nobody troubled to carry in a scabbard.

\* \* \*

"NEVER the time and the place and the loved one all together" *Browning* wrote and his lament more or less—rather less than more—fits in with the appearance of the jay to-day. This corner of the country, in common with the rest of Great Britain, has been infested with jays since the reduction in the number of keepers, together with the shortage of cartridges, allowed this beautiful, but most villainous, bird to breed and bring up its young unmolested. Evidence of its evil work

is available almost every day in the garden during the Spring months, when one sees the shells of robin, thrush and hedge-sparrow eggs lying on the lawn and garden paths, and the empty pea-pods from the cherished early rows scattered over the vegetable plots.

There are two factors which, for me, govern the shooting of a jay: I must have sufficient cartridges in stock to enable me to expend one without a feeling of bereavement; and, secondly, I must have a dirty gun, as I will not put myself to the trouble of cleaning and oiling a barrel for an inedible scoundrel like a jay. Most creatures against whom the hand of man has been raised from time immemorial, have apparently a sixth sense which enables them to know when they are in danger of, or safe from, the assaults of their enemy; and so, when I return from an evening's prowling with a cartridge ready in a powder-fouled gun through the jay-haunted wood, which is conveniently placed for easy access to the pea-rows, there is never a glimpse of a white rump, and never a screech from the birch branches. On the other hand should the gun be unused and cartridges extremely short, or I am hoping to flush a pheasant from the gorse patch at the end of the wood if, like *Agag*, I walk delicately, a jay flutters weakly down the ride, presenting an easy kill, every fifty yards of my progress, while half a dozen others in the trees make noises suggestive of Hitler loose in the Munich beer-cellar.

It is the same when one is shooting with a party, and would like to make some small return for one's host's generosity by killing one of his jays for him. On these occasions the vermin either fly out of the wood over the guns at a period of the drive when a premature shot would notify to a number of uneasy pheasants that some unpleasant incident was being staged for them in front; or, woodcock-like, they go straight at the head of the nearest beater.

# THE NATIONAL PARKS OF THE UNITED STATES

By FRANK W. LANE

**T**HE first National Park in the world was created in the United States. It was the Yellowstone, comprising an area of scenic interest and beauty which has few parallels anywhere in the United States or any other country.

It was in 1872 that Congress established the Yellowstone "as a public park or pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people" and provided against "injury or spoliation of all timber, mineral deposits, natural curiosities, or wonders within the said park, and their retention in their natural condition." The setting aside of the area as a park for the people was made possible by the public-spirited action of men who relinquished their legal and moral rights to profit through private ownership of the land of which the park is composed.

Thus was born a new conception of the use of land, and other nations, notably the countries of the British Empire, have followed so excellent a lead.

No commercial considerations enter into the management of these American parks. Many of them contain noble forests, but these are regarded as part of the beauty of the landscape and never as lumber. Other parks have great waterfalls, but these are never harnessed to provide electrical power. The mineral wealth of the parks is likewise left untouched by the prospector's pick and remains as part of the natural heritage for the common enjoyment of all. Many forms of wild life throng the parks but, except for the purposes of control, the only shooting that is permitted is by the camera.

To-day there are 26 parks in addition to many smaller areas, such as national monuments, historic sights and national memorials. They cover a total area of some 20 million acres.



1.—ALONG THE APPALACHIAN WAY—LONGEST HIGHWAY IN THE WORLD

Had it not been for the war it is probable that two further parks, authority for which has already been given by Congress, would have been opened. These are the Everglades in Florida, with its tropical scenery and rare tropical bird life, and the Big Bend area of Texas, with its steep-walled canyons, virgin forests, and abundant wild life—the last wilderness area left in the Lone Star State. Parts of these districts are already State Parks.

The administration of the parks is under the Federal Government, the responsible department being the National Park Service. The local administration is the responsibility of the superintendent, who resides in the park. A staff of protective, clerical, educational and engineering assistants work under the local superintendents.

During the months when the tourist traffic is at its height naturalists and historians are available in the largest parks to interpret the wealth of natural and human history encountered. Parties are conducted through the parks on short or long trips and informal talks are given at camp-fires, trailside museums and outdoor amphitheatres.

Although hunting by tourists is strictly forbidden, fishing is permitted under regulations that insure against depletion of the supply. To insure good fishing the lakes and streams are stocked each year with millions of eggs and young fish.

The Federal and State fish hatcheries co-operate in this work. The hatcheries themselves are an attraction to visitors, and observation platforms and aquariums are so arranged that the work of the hatcheries can be easily studied.

It would be impossible within the compass of a single article to deal with all the 26 parks. Mention of some of the main features of a few of the more noteworthy is all that can be attempted.

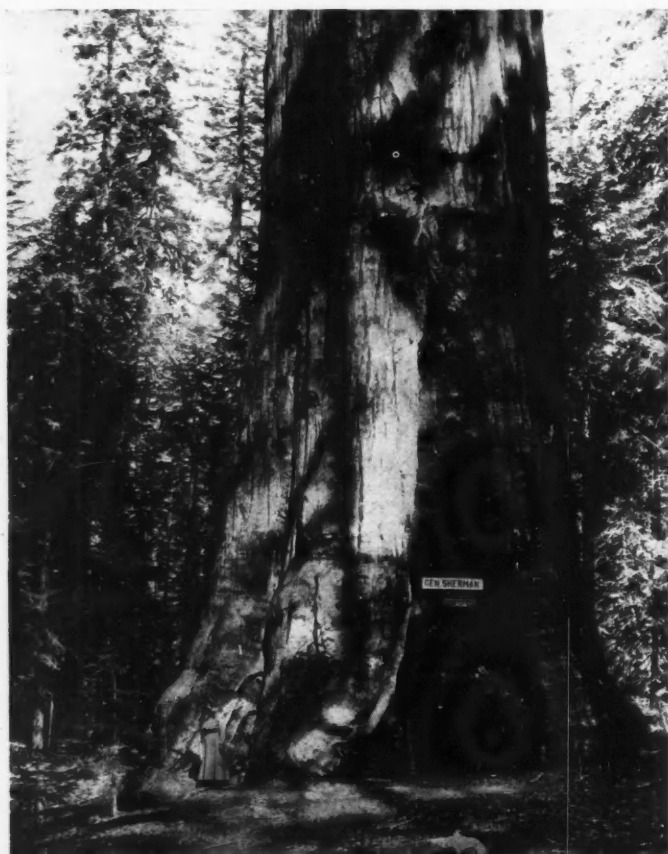
As the Yellowstone is first in history so it is among the first in interest. It is in Wyoming and has a total area of nearly 3,500 square miles or about two and a half times the size of Cornwall. Its outstanding feature is its geysers, which are more and greater than anywhere else in the world. Giantess Geyser, the largest of all, shoots water 200 ft. into the air. During its most violent activity 22 tons of water are in the air at one time.

The fact that geysers are sensitive to soap is well known, but this fact had apparently escaped a Chinese laundryman who some years ago endeavoured to commercialise one of the hot springs. He erected a small tent over the spring, tossed in some clothes and added some soap. He was watching with considerable satisfaction while the geyser did his work for him when suddenly there was a violent explosion and tent, washing and Chinese were shot into the air.

As this thermal activity indicates, the Yellowstone region is of volcanic origin. This also accounts for its wonderfully variegated colouring. Standing on Inspiration Point it is possible to look almost vertically down upon the foaming Yellowstone River and see a waterfall nearly twice the height of Niagara apparently rushing out of the pine-clad hills and pouring downward to be lost in the mist and jade of the river below.

Miss Isabelle F. Story, of the National Park Service, writes of this view:

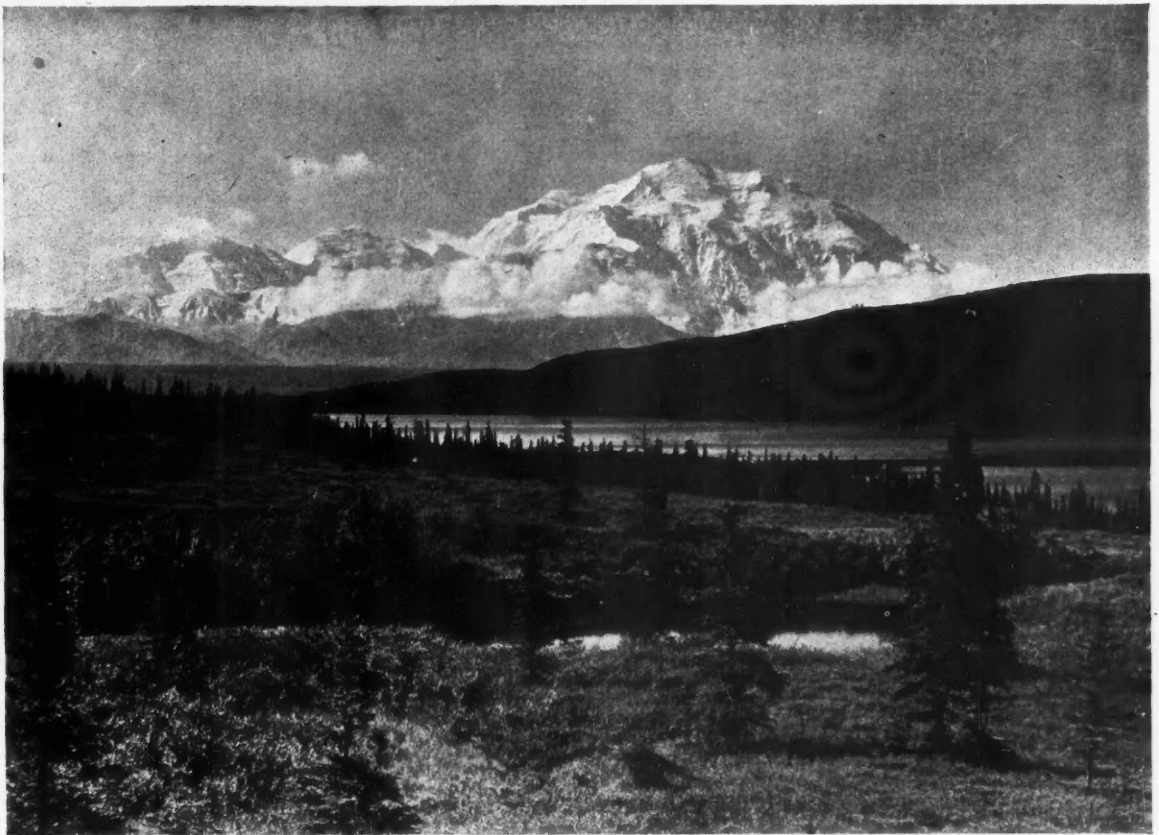
Between the falls and Inspiration Point widens out a glorious expanse of colour. The steep slopes dropping on either side a thousand feet and more from the pine-topped levels above are wonderfully carved and fretted by the frost and the erosion of the ages. Sometimes they lie in straight lines at easy angles, from which jut high rocky prominences. Sometimes they lie in huge hollows carved from the side walls. Here and there jagged rocky needles rise



2.—GENERAL SHERMAN TREE, SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK. It is 272 ft. high, 101 ft. in circumference at the base



### 3.—MOUNT MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK. WONDER LAKE



perpendicularly for hundreds of feet like groups of gothic spires.

And the whole is coloured as brokenly and vividly as the field of a kaleidoscope. It is streaked and spotted and stratified in every shade from the deepest orange to the faintest lemon, from deep crimson through all the brick shades to the softest pink, from black through all the greys and pearls to glistening white. The greens are furnished by the dark pines above, the lighter shades of growth caught here and there in soft masses on the gentler slopes and the foaming green of the plunging river so far below. The blues, ever changing, are found in the dome of the sky overhead.

It is a spectacle which one looks upon in silence.

America is a land of magnificent trees and in the Sequoia National Park in California are preserved for all time some of the finest stands of timber to be found anywhere in the world. In the park are thousands of giant sequoias (*Sequoia gigantea*), several hundreds of which are more than 10 ft. in diameter and 300 ft. in height. Some are over 30 ft. in diameter at the base.

The largest of all is known as the General Sherman tree (Fig. 2). It is 101·6 ft. in circumference and 36·5 ft. in diameter at the base, 17 ft. in diameter 120 ft. from the ground, and 272·4 ft. in height, and it is estimated to contain nearly half a million board feet of lumber.

Several of the trees were vigorous saplings before the dawn of Christianity. Some of these trees must be the oldest living things on earth.

The Crater Lake National Park in Oregon (Fig. 7) derives its name from the beautiful lake of great depth which is cupped in the crater of an extinct volcano.

An ancient eruption blew the top off Mount Mazama and in its place is now the lake, which has a maximum depth of nearly half a mile. The lake has no direct inlet or outlet and is maintained by precipitation which equals losses through seepage and evaporation so that the lake is maintained at a constant level.

One of the most recently opened parks is the Waterton Lakes Glacier International Peace Park. The American section is in Montana and the Canadian section in British Columbia. When it was dedicated in June, 1932, the President of the United States said in a message, that the Park formed a symbol "of the goodwill that has so long blessed our relations with our Canadian neighbours" and of the hope and the faith that it will forever remain such.

This park contains in the hollows of its rugged mountain tops 60 small glaciers. There are at least 200 lakes, many of them stocked with fish. There is



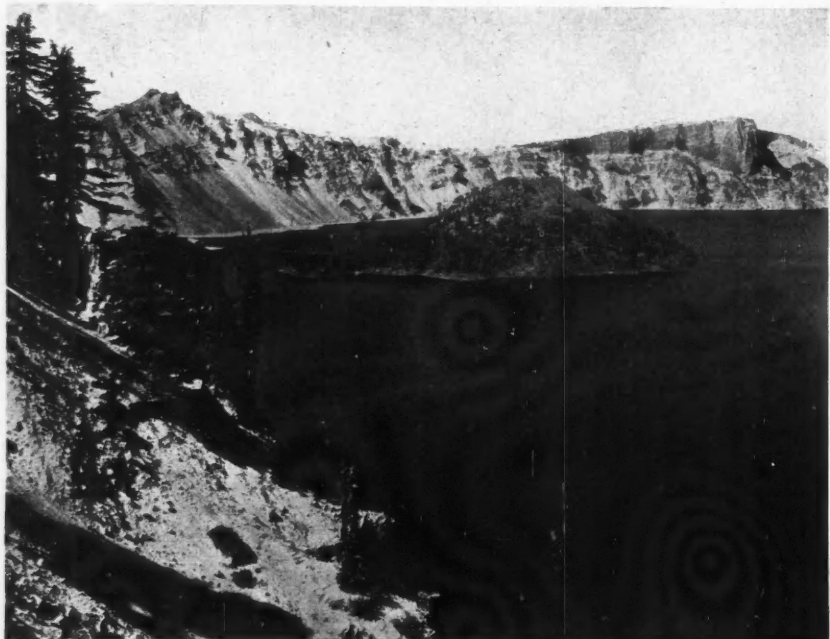
4.—THE GREAT FALLS AND GRAND CANYON, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK



5.—THE SO-CALLED MORMON TEMPLE, BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK



6.—LAKE JOSEPHINE, GLACIER NATIONAL PARK



7.—CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK, OREGON

only one road through the American part of the park, the Going-to-the-Sun Highway, which was opened in 1934. It is a magnificent transmountain road; the only highway crossing the Continental Divide within the park.

One of the parks is situated largely underground: Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico (Fig. 8). These are a series of connected caverns decorated by a beautiful series of naturally sculptured forms in the shape of stalagmites, stalactites, helictites (irregular spiral forms), enormous columns, "alabaster curtains" and other limestone formations. A mile and a half from the entrance is an enormous chamber three-quarters of a mile long, several hundred feet wide and, at one point, 350 ft. high. In addition to this huge cavern, there are many miles of passages and chambers at depths of from 750 to 1,320 ft.

Millions of bats live in a cavern 180 ft. below the surface. At dusk they spiral in a dense cloud through the great entrance arch to begin their night's foraging.



8.—A PARK UNDERGROUND, CARLSBAD CAVERNS, NEW MEXICO

It has been estimated that three million bats during one night's foray consume nearly 12 tons of night-flying insects.

It is not surprising that the Grand Canyon in Arizona has been made a National Park. Many experienced travellers believe this canyon is the finest scenic spectacle this earth has to offer. The Grand Canyon is a mile-deep gorge, four to eighteen miles across and 217 miles long. It has been cut out of the surrounding countryside by the Colorado River's erosion, especially when this has been flooded through the melting of the Spring snows. Hamlin Garland thus describes the Canyon:

It has a thousand different moods. No one can know it for what it is who has not lived with it every day of the year. It is like a mountain range—a cloud to-day, a wall of marble to-morrow. When the light falls into it, harsh, direct, and searching, it is great, but not beautiful. The lines are chaotic, disturbing—but wait! The clouds and the sunset, the moonrise and the storm will transform it into a splendour no mountain range can surpass. Peaks will shift and glow, walls darken, crags take fire, and grey-green mesas, dimly seen, take on the gleam of opalescent lakes of mountain water.

The sides of the Canyon are indescribably carved and fretted and the strata of rock and soil exposed by the river's excavations are of marvellous colours. Blues, greys, mauves and reds intermingle and change from hour to hour with the changing light.

The photographs illustrating this article were supplied by the U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, the Northern Pacific Railway and Hileman.



# THE "ROYAL" UP-TO-DATE

By H. D. WALSTON

IT is just over a hundred years since the Royal Agricultural Society of England was formed under the name of the English Agricultural Society. The original Committee, which was composed of prominent agriculturists of the time, met on May 12, 1838, and drew up a list setting forth the objects of the Society. It is interesting now to look at this list and see how little the needs of agriculture have changed since then. Briefly, they are as follows:

- (1) To publish a summary of experimental work of use to agriculture.
- (2) To keep in touch with agricultural progress in foreign countries.
- (3) To assist in the carrying out of field experiments in England.
- (4) To encourage scientific research in such subjects as agricultural implements, the design and construction of farm buildings, the application of chemistry to agriculture, and pest and weed control.
- (5) To promote the discovery of new varieties of grain and vegetable seeds.
- (6) To assist in the proper management of woodlands and improve rural life generally.
- (7) To help in the education of all those connected with agriculture.
- (8) To help veterinary research as applied to agriculture.
- (9) To hold meetings of the Society in the country in order to encourage good farming.
- (10) To help the welfare of the farm-workers, particularly with regard to housing and gardens.

As is shown in *The History of the Royal Agricultural Society* written by Professor J. A. Scott Watson for the centenary of the Society in 1939, the "Royal" has performed an invaluable service to British agriculture by working on the lines of its original objectives. It is amazing how many advances which are now accepted by farmers without question are to a large extent the result of encouragement given at a crucial period by the Royal. But since the turn of the century the activities of the Royal have centred more upon its annual show and the publication of its *Journal*, and less upon its other, and at times more important, objects. In fact, in the minds of most people the Royal Agricultural Society stands for nothing more than the Society which holds a show in different parts of the country every year. No longer does it stand for the Society formed originally to promote agricultural research and education in the widest possible sense, in order to do which the holding of an annual show was only one of many methods.

It is only fair to say that many of the subjects which the Royal felt were in need of attention in 1839 are now being studied by bodies specially instituted for the purpose: for instance, the National Institute of Agricultural Botany, and the National Institute of Agricultural Engineering are now in being to improve respectively the seeds and machinery which farmers use, while many counties have Agricultural Institutes at which new methods of husbandry are tried out, and laboratory findings subjected to field experiment.

On the other hand, valuable though the work is that has been done by these Institutes, there is still ample scope for more research and wider dissemination of the results of that research, and the Royal could well play an invaluable part in assisting the Ministry of Agriculture and its various Institutes to bring to yet further heights the efficiency to which British agriculture has already attained.

But, although other bodies have taken over some of the functions of the Royal, there are still many which no other body cares for and which are now even more important to agriculture than they were in 1839. For instance, it is hard for the ordinary farmer to keep abreast of agricultural thought and agricultural methods in

foreign countries, though there is much of interest going on overseas which it would greatly benefit the English farmer to know.

In the design of farm buildings, too, there is a big gap. The farmer or landowner wishing to put up buildings now would welcome a consultant architect appointed by the Royal—an architect who has made a special study of the problems of farm buildings, just as the Society's consultant chemist is an expert in problems of soil chemistry.

Possibly even more important than the design of farm buildings is the design of cottages for agricultural workers. Many have been put up recently, and there will be need for many more when the war is over. Housing authorities should certainly welcome advice on this matter from the Royal Agricultural Society, and this step should lead to a greatly improved standard of rural housing.

There is, too, the question of the general welfare of farm-workers, their prospects of promotion, and the possibility of their rising upon the farming ladder until they become farmers on their own account. Too much of the talk that has been going on on this subject has been tinged with political bias, which would make the contribution of a non-political organisation like the Royal doubly valuable.

Finally, and perhaps most important of all for present-day agriculture, is the application of economics and modern business methods to farming. Although this was never specifically mentioned in the objects of the Society, it certainly could be included under the general heading of "Every subject connected with rural improvement."

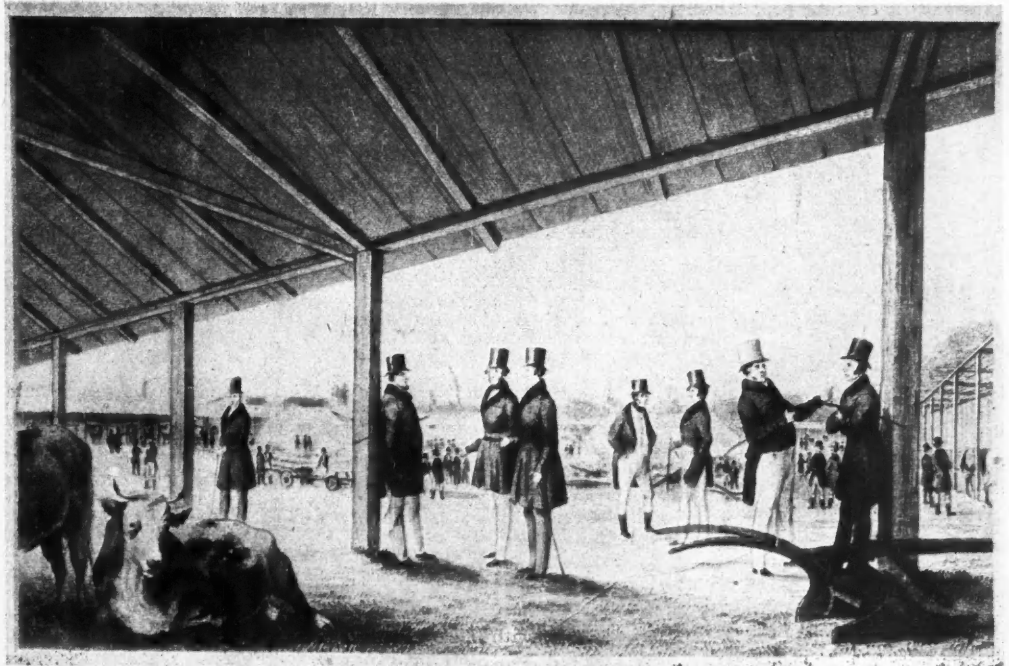
It is here that the farmer is most in need of help. He can get advice on breeding, on artificial manures, on seeds, and on machinery from his local advisory officer, or from the appropriate central Institute, but when it comes to a question of profitability of one method compared with another, he is left completely to himself. One of the greatest services that the Royal could give to agriculture at present would be to institute an enquiry into methods of farm costings. This enquiry, which should be carried out in consultation with the Universities, the Ministry of Agriculture and industrial cost accountants, should endeavour to prepare a standard system of costings. When this system was established, individual firms should be encouraged to undertake such work for farmers.

In addition to all this the Royal should regain its proper position of being the focus of all agricultural activity in this country. To it should come any farmer in want of scientific advice, and through it he should be passed on to the person most likely to be able to give that advice. To it should come the industrialist who contemplates turning his plant over to the production of, for instance, agricultural machinery, or pre-fabricated farm buildings, and who wants to know more about the requirements of farmers.

As an example of the moment, many farmers are interested in putting up plants for bulk storage of grain. Several manufacturers are interested in making such plants, yet no research has been done on them; no one knows what is the best or cheapest material or the most satisfactory from the point of view of keeping the grain in good condition. Here is a matter for research in which the Royal could take the lead, not necessarily by doing the work itself, but by encouraging and assisting others to do it.

This would mean a great enlargement of the present scope of the Royal; no one department would be able to cope with all the specialised work involved. The Council itself would have to play a large part and it would have to form specialist sub-committees to deal with the various subjects—economics, buildings, machinery, foreign affairs, education, etc. Each of these sub-committees would need the services of a full-time paid specialist and to co-ordinate the whole organisation a man possessing not only first-class organising ability, but also a sound practical knowledge of farming and of agricultural science would be needed. The main duties of these sub-committees would be to watch progress in their particular field, to stimulate any line of research that seemed to them necessary, and, if need be, to initiate research by an *ad hoc* grant for that purpose.

This would not involve any drastic reconstruction of the Royal Agricultural Society as we know it, any more than it would mean the condemnation of those who have been carrying on the good work of the Society in recent years. It would mean simply that it was now realised that agriculture was entering upon a new phase and that in order to carry out the original objects of the Society a re-organisation was necessary. Now is the time to do it, so that when the war is over the Royal can emerge once more strong enough to play its full part in the agriculture of this country and in the agriculture of the whole world.



THE FIRST "ROYAL" SHOW, HELD AT OXFORD IN 1839  
Lord Spencer, the first President, is seen fourth from the right

## CHRIST CHURCH FURNITURE—I

## SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES

By W. G. HISCOCK

IN any description of the early furniture of Christ Church, Oxford, the first piece to be mentioned—on the score of antiquity—must be the much restored, uncomfortable and undocumented ash “turned-chair” in the Byzantine style, which, by tradition, is believed to have been used by Cardinal Wolsey (Fig. 1). If there is any substance in this tradition, the chair could reasonably be dated to the latter part of the fifteenth century—to the earlier years of Wolsey’s lifetime, before the corpulency depicted in his portrait prevented the Cardinal’s use of the chair, the triangular seat of which measures only 12 ins. from base to apex.

A more concrete, yet early reference to the furniture in use at the College is given in an entry in the Accounts for the year 1547: For five greate planks, seasoned, of beche bought for the tabylls in the Hall xx<sup>s</sup>; for caredge of the same xiii<sup>s</sup>.

Undoubtedly this beech was a special purchase of superior seasoned wood, perhaps from the Henley district—one of the sources of other timber used in the College at this period. New tables may have been made of it, or, more likely, new tops for some existing Tudor trestle-tables. If, however, new tables were constructed, they would almost certainly be of the joined-frame type introduced in the middle of the

sixteenth century. As to be expected, they do not exist to-day; beech is susceptible to worm, and undergraduates are addicted to anniversary bonfires, fed, perhaps, with damaged and worm-stricken furniture. That these beech tables were of the draw-top type is practically certain, for it was their period, but there are few records of the use of beech for such tables; it is only in the latter part of the sixteenth century that beech was used for the smaller types of chairs, and even these are rare.

The iron-clad oak box (Fig. 2) which holds the College seal probably dates from 1546—the year of Henry VIII’s foundation—and we know that the Smith of Abingdon made keys “to the lytell coffer for the seale” for which he was paid in 1547. The locks and keys were renewed in the eighteenth century.

Such entries as these of 1547 arouse our curiosity with regard to the nature of the furniture used in the chamber of an early 16th-century undergraduate. But, unhappily, little is known of these smaller pieces of his private use; we can be sure, however, that his chamber

(Right)

1.—“CARDINAL WOLSEY’S CHAIR”

Turned ash, probably late fifteenth century



2.—THE COLLEGE SEAL BOX

20½ ins. by 9¼ ins., height 8 ins. Oak, mounted with iron. 1546



3.—READING DESK, OF CARVED OAK, ABOUT 1600

Formerly in the Old Library



4.—THE DEAN'S CHAIR

Made in 1583 for the visit of a Polish prince

was but sparsely furnished. We can surmise that his necessities included a small trestle-table, a joint-stool, a chest, perhaps a settle. For his toilet a basin and ewer of pewter, with water fetched from the “plumpe” near by in the quadrangle. His floor was probably bare, though he may have had a small rush mat as a Winter luxury. Table napkins were of fine linen for the nobleman and gentleman-commoner; for the ordinary commoner and servitor they were of coarser stuff. Trenchers were wooden, and candles supplied the artificial light. The walls of his chamber were bare, but as the century advanced, the best rooms of the senior members’ lodgings were wainscoted.

Such skilled work was generally carried out by an Oxford joiner, whose charges in 1582 can be gathered from this extract: “Fortyfive yards of waynescot at xxiid the yard” installed in the Cathedral by the joiner Edward North, “so that the Doctors and prebendaries’ wives may have roome to sit and heare sermons,” the cost being £4 2s. 6d. An additional payment of 3s. 9d. was made to him for “half a hundred of such boord used about the same seats at 7s. 6d. the hundred.” In the following year the Subdean was reimbursed “for a gret presse of waynescot with locke and key in his bedchamber at xxxs and for a frame to a table at iis, and for another frame in the gret chamber vs vid.” But the college carpenter was equally skilled, and could construct most things, from a stage

for the Christ Church undergraduate actors to a chair worthy of the dining-hall. The stage erected in 1583, when Albertus Alasco, the Prince Palatine of Siradia in Poland, visited the College, was made of four timber trees from Chandence Woods near Bagley a few miles to the south of the city.

For the Prince a new chair was made by one Richard Wilkins which cost 6s. (Fig. 4). It is possibly the one now known as the Dean’s chair and kept in the Hall. This chair with its panelled back and gouge cuts is in a wonderfully good state of preservation, which is due of course to the constant cleaning it has received from the servants and to the comparatively little use made of the chair. It is essentially of the type produced by the craftsmen of the Midlands and southern England, perhaps best known by examples of circa 1670—and even later—in Sussex and the adjoining counties. If the Prince Alasco watched William Gager’s plays *Rivales* and *Dido* from the chair, we have an interesting and direct link with the Tudor drama of Christ Church.

When Queen Elizabeth stayed at Christ Church in September, 1592, she found the College furnishing somewhat bleak and masculine—as we may guess from the following extract from the accounts: “To Dr. Pedes (a Canon) for settinge up the wainscott in his inner chamber taken down at the queen’s beinge heare 1s. 4d.” Perhaps his sleeping-chamber





5.—BUFFET, IN DINING-HALL

The upper stage with inlaid face. About 1610

was wainscoted with looking-glass for the toilet of Elizabeth or one of her Court; doubtless a doctor of divinity in 1592 could provide only a small, inadequate, standing looking-glass.

There is reason to believe that the Queen's bedstead—used by her during her visit of 1566 or in 1592—remained in the Deanery until the late eighteenth century, for the anonymous writer of the manuscript *Tour of Oxford*, 1785, says that the Deanery "has been new fitted up by Dr. [Cyril] Jackson the present Dean who has not put up Queen Elizabeth's curious bed."

Timber from the College estate at Chandence Woods afforded the main supply for both fuel and building purposes, while the disintegrating Abbey at Osney was rendered still more ruinous by the extraction of its best timbers for minor reparations. Timber for more important work was selected and brought, on occasion, from the College estate at Black Bourton in Gloucestershire, as in the Winter of 1598, when the College carpenters distinguished themselves by making at least five large dining-tables for the Hall; the relevant entry in the accounts is singularly interesting, giving as it does a full and dated history of their origin:

For cutting & squaring 3 trees at Blackburton to make new tables in the hall 10s, & for sawing the same trees 6s 8d & for carriage of them from Burton to our stables 3 boates xxxs.

(This journey by water through Burford, Witney, and Newbridge to Oxford indicates that the river Windrush was much more navigable in 1598 than it is to-day.)

The tables—which are of oak—have fairly massive undecorated columnar legs of the type introduced about 1590, and they originally carried outside stretchers; these have been renewed in the centre position. In at least one of the tables the original top has escaped restoration. It is interesting to note that on the under-surfaces there has been made more use of the adze than of the saw. These tables are probably the oldest in use in Oxford (Fig. 6).

Very little is known of the early furniture of the College library, except that the fittings were bought second-hand from the University. These comprised stalls and desks taken out of the Divinity School Library in 1563, when it was replenished with manuscripts. This first Christ Church library—known as the Old Library—was converted into rooms for under-

graduates in 1775, and none of the fittings remains. The only relic of furniture from this building is a carved oak, lidless reading desk of *circa* 1600 (Fig. 3), with conventional carving of grape-vine and Tudor roses; the sloping book-rest is of later date.

In the dining-hall there is an example of an Elizabethan buffet of the sideboard type, in two stages, the upper supported by heraldic griffins, the lower on carved bulbous legs. The upper frieze is inlaid with arabesques, and the drawer bears carving that is essentially Jacobean (Fig. 5). Nothing is known of its provenance, but it can almost certainly be dated as a piece of *circa* 1610. Three hundred years of rubbing and polishing by the Hall servants has produced on the buffet a wonderful patina.

Much of the work carried out for Christ Church by the Oxford joiners of the early seventeenth century is no longer *in situ*. The pelican carved upon the 1608 organ by John Bolton for 6s. 8d. may possibly be the ornament which crowns the present pulpit. The organ-case made in the same year by Thomas Leys for 13s. 4d. is incorporated in the case of the existing organ. "Ye church skrene" costing £30 in 1624 is

believed to be incorporated in the present screen; the original was the work of one Richardson, a joiner.

Prices for timber in 1659 are given when "2,000 foot of oaken boards & 27 foot of oaken timber" were bought for £16 7s. towards the completion of the Great Quadrangle. All the timber used for Wren's Tower in 1681, including the great oak beams for hanging the famous bell Great Tom, was chosen from Dorton Park (between Aylesbury and Thame) by Richard Frogley the master-carpenter—who is also known for his work at the Old Ashmolean building.

In 1692 a local cabinet-maker, John Williams, supplied a set of 12 oak William and Mary russia leather chairs which cost £6, together with a typical tall-backed arm-chair to match for 15s. This is the earliest surviving set of chairs in the College; the maker's bill survives, and the chairs are in very good condition, with their original leather seats (Fig. 7).

In a further article it is hoped to demonstrate that the skill of the College carpenters and Oxford cabinet-makers reached its zenith of achievement in the eighteenth century.

(To be concluded.)



6.—HALL TABLE, PROBABLY ONE OF THE OLDEST IN USE AT OXFORD  
Made by the College carpenters, 1598-99



7.—LEATHER-COVERED CHAIRS, PART OF A SET OF TWELVE  
Of Cromwellian type but made for the College in 1692



# CHARTERS, SUNNINGDALE, BERKSHIRE—III

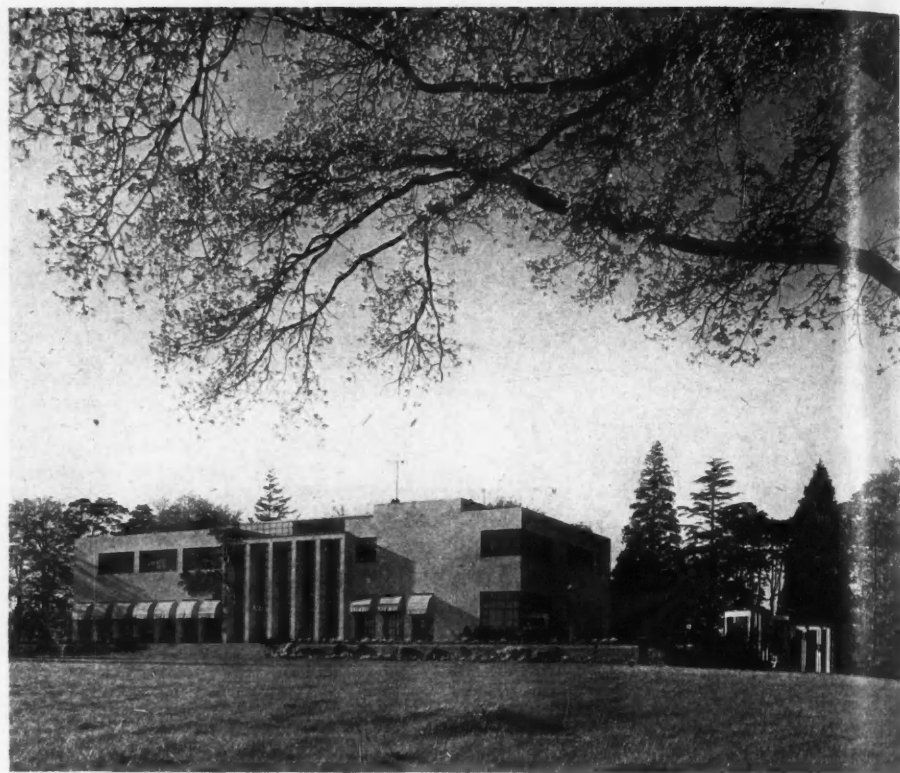
THE HOME OF MR. FRANK PARKINSON

*It is suggested that the furnishing of this country house, completed in 1938, represents in the case of some of the modern rooms illustrated a notable point in the evolution of a contemporary style, combining traditional with modern qualities.*

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

**W**HEN the world recovers from the war, reconstructed, replanned, re-equipped, and reconstituted generally, the small but not unimportant question of refurnishing it will arise. By 1938 the design and production of furniture, after years of stagnation and occasional will-o'-the-wisp "movements," showed signs of coherent progress, and made the furnishing of a house of the size and type of Charters a practical proposition. Even so, antique furniture was, from a combination of choice and necessity, used for the main reception rooms, which were decorated accordingly. But for the rest, the usual living-rooms and bedrooms, it was possible to prescribe contemporary furnishing of a standard of design and execution suited to the house. That would not have been possible ten years previously, and it is doubtful if it will be so ten years hence.

The creation of a sound new tradition of furniture design is a complex undertaking. One cannot merely go to a factory and order modern furniture to be made, or even tell a designer just to go ahead. The emporia are full of stuff produced in that way. Oddly enough with something so universally used, but precisely because of its intimate nature, the right designing of furniture involves the crystallisation of four sets of ideas: its functional purpose, its materials, the tools and processes used in its manufacture, and the public's reaction to its price, durability, comfort, and appearance in relation to the rooms in which it is required. The first three conclusions can be approximately reached in the factory, but the fourth takes time, and even more before the modifications required get back to the designer and maker, and are incorporated in wholly satisfactory models.



1.—THE GARDEN FRONT FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

The rooms illustrated are in the east and west ends

Yet this process of trial and error, suggestion and rejection, is inseparable from the evolution of forms that are eventually to be accepted as crystallising the spirit of the age, as does the furniture of the great historic epochs. Chippendale and his fellows did not work in isolation, but on the crest of a wave of technical development and critical patronage, largely generated by one man forty years before.

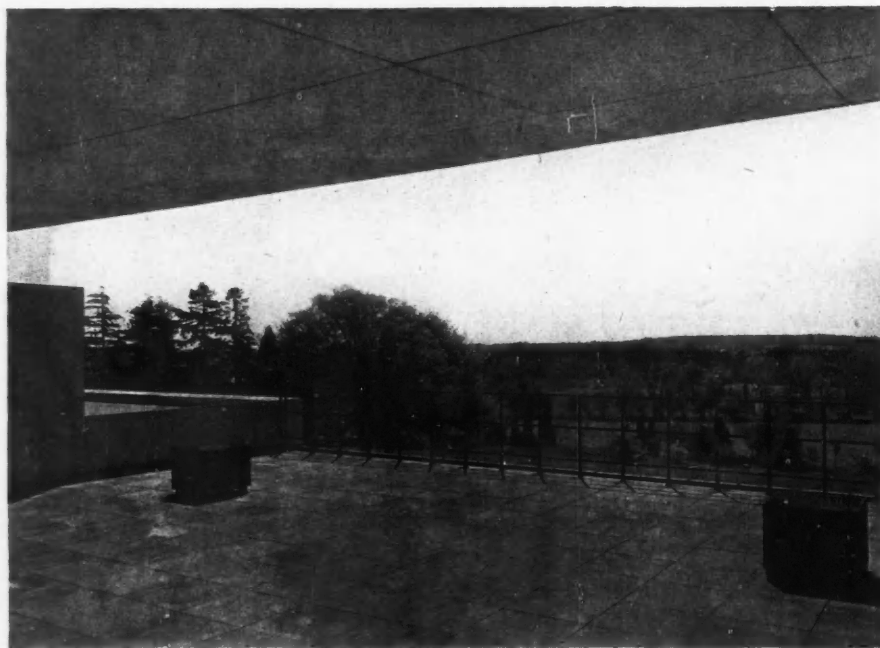
The philosophic writings of the 3rd Earl

of Shaftesbury, popularised by Addison and Pope, provided the intellectual basis for the intelligent patronage of the arts by men of standing and wealth throughout the eighteenth century. "To be a virtuoso so far as befits a gentleman," he said—the reservation is characteristic of the age—"is a higher step towards the becoming a man of virtue and good sense, than in being what in this age we call a scholar." By which he meant that taste is more important than knowledge.

Throughout that century of peace and leisure this belief held good, and resulted in the intense activity of designers working in close co-operation with patrons (of the middle as well as the upper class), which produced the extraordinary refinements of the applied arts between 1700 and 1800. Designer and craftsman were continually in informed and critical demand, with the result that the fourth process in the crystallisation of style went on continuously, and refinement rapidly succeeded refinement—as happens normally in the design of motor-cars and women's dresses nowadays. Hence the great need of intelligent patronage, referred to in the first of these articles, to the development of the applied arts to-day.

By 1939 the crystallising process in furniture design had just got going, and these rooms at Charters provide excellent examples of the results. But it is to be feared that much of the ground gained will be found to have been lost as a result of the war, and of the ensuing need for supplying elementary needs by crude mass production. However, the nature of certain war-time "utility" designs, and the Government's proposals for encouraging industrial design, give grounds for hopes to the contrary.

In our tour of the house, designed by Adie, Button and Partners, we stopped last week short of the dining-room, at the far end of the terrace front where it approaches the



2.—THE ROOF TERRACE, LOOKING SOUTH TO THE HOG'S BACK

### 3.—THE DINING-ROOM.

THE WINDOWS LOOK SOUTH AND WEST



trees in Fig. 1. The dining-room (Figs. 3 and 4) has two walls almost all window, the other two hung with Chinese hand-painted paper with a cream ground. It is essentially a Georgian room, and the remarkable set of chinoiserie cabriole-legged mahogany chairs are originals of about 1730-40. The dining-table is a modern adaptation of their design. The lighting of the room is its chief innovation: concealed in the cornice, it is variable from white to pink or moonlight blue by

pressure of a switch on the table, when the pearl grey silk curtains and the walls change colour accordingly.

At the other end of the house, looking east, are the family living-rooms. The owner's study and library (Fig. 8) occupies the S.E. corner, with a continuous run of bronze-framed windows. A peculiarity of these is that they can be folded away completely without a stanchion remaining even at the angle. The principal piece of furniture is

the very fine Chippendale mahogany desk.

On the opposite side of the corridor is the morning-room (Figs. 5 and 6), which is remarkable as a complete example of a contemporary room, with paintings related to its design. The pictures, two large and two smaller, are by Adrian Daintrey, and good instances of that painter's vigorous and colourful rendering of contemporary scenes—the riverside, an outdoor café, a Pimlico street. The broad effects of modern painters



4.—CREAM CHINESE HAND-PAINTED WALL-PAPER IN THE DINING-ROOM, AND 18th-CENTURY CHINOISERIE CHAIRS

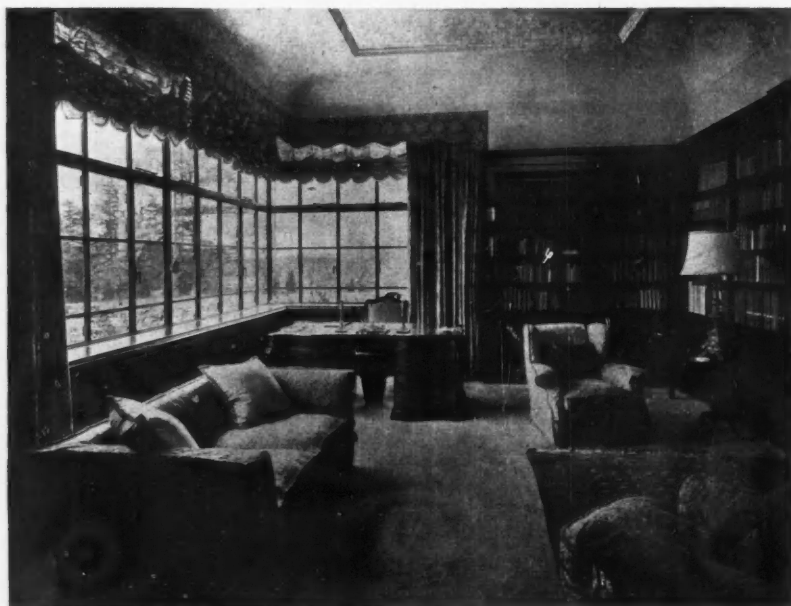




5.—THE MORNING-ROOM, LOOKING EASTWARDS  
Brown and green upholstery: Australian walnut furniture



6.—THE MORNING-ROOM. PAINTINGS BY ADRIAN DAINTREY



8.—THE STUDY. THE CONTINUOUS WINDOWS CAN BE FOLDED BACK COMPLETELY

are well suited by the simple squarish forms of modern furniture. The river scene stands up well on the black marble fireplace surround. Both photographs of this room, if looked at abstractedly, make patterns recalling cubist designs, indicating the aesthetic origin of this type of contemporary furnishing that thus applies originally abstract pattern to living purposes. Australian walnut, dark streaked brown, is the surface-material of the cupboard-cabinet and writing-desk, the latter of the serviceable segmental pattern. The textiles are in quiet brown and greenish weaves.

Another instance of contemporary painting in relation to design occurs in a bedroom (Fig. 7). The painting, by Martin Battersby, is recessed behind the plane of the fireplace, and has concealed top lighting. In its slightly Surrealistic way it makes a highly decorative pattern for this setting.

It is, indeed, in the bedrooms that are found many of the most satisfactory furniture and design ensembles organised by Mrs. G. R. Mount, who, with Messrs.



7.—A MODERN FIREPLACE AND OVERMANTEL DESIGN

Geoffrey Webster as manufacturer, was in charge of the internal decoration throughout. Mrs. Parkinson's bedroom is in a simplified Louis XVI manner, coloured pale peach, with adjoining bathroom lined with marble of the same colouring (Fig. 10), but essentially functional in design. But the bedroom, charming as it is, is distinct from the theme of this article, which draws attention rather to the progress attained in design along specifically contemporary lines.

In the evolutionary process of a contemporary style which was going on in the 'thirties, one of the effects of what I have called the fourth stage in its crystallisation—namely the reaction of the public to the experiments by manufacturers and designers—was to require more grace of line and less cubism. Many people wanted new furniture that would consort with their older possessions, and felt, reasonably, that it must be possible to make it without wholly sacrificing the qualities so pleasing in the Georgian tradition. The bedrooms illustrated in Figs. 9, 11 and 12 show some of the results arrived at. They could not be mistaken for anything but modern, in their simplicity, lightness, and clean colouring; but it is also evident that the designs continue, in the medium of new materials or new treatments, some leading virtues of the historic styles.

In the Blues bedroom, facing south and west, the walls, woodwork and curtains are pale blue, the padded silk of the bedsteads royal blue. The bedsteads have an



18th-century elegance but a modern lightness, the heads crested with carved ostrich plumes. This *motif* is repeated in the purpose-woven pale blue silk of the chairs' upholstery, and also in the bedside tables, writing-table, and occasional chairs. The latter all combine traditional grace with modern directness, and are painted in the colour of the room, pale blue picked out with dark. All the bedrooms have flouncing draw-up curtains of translucent silk to soften the abundant daylight from the large horizontal windows, in addition to night curtains.

Another south room (Fig. 11) is cream in colouring for the walls and silks, with pale birch or sycamore furniture, the dressing-table faced with engraved glass. The whole effect is deliciously light and clean, qualities repeated in the delicate Regency curves of the chairs and stools.

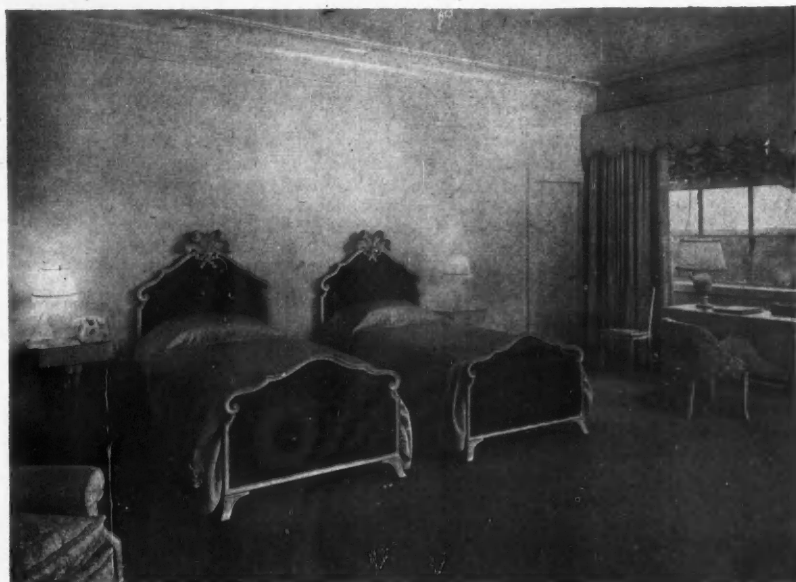
The dark blue room (Fig. 12) is white with a dark blue carpet, upholstery and covers. The bedhead, covered with white vellum, combines reading light and bedside tables in a single graceful and practical unit. A writing-table, similar to that in Fig. 9, is made of white birchwood, with dark blue leather surfaces. The



10.—A NOTABLE BATHROOM, LINED WITH PINK MARBLE

dressing-table, in a design repeated in several rooms but differently surfaced, is of mahogany here, painted white, with blue leather top. Its shape is traditional but worked out in harmony with the plastic character of concrete architecture, so that the joints and surface features of woodwork are suppressed in favour of continuous vertical fluted mouldings, like those of a doric column. The dark verticals form the drawer handles. The curtains have a pale blue ground bearing a red, white, and dark blue pattern. For a man's room the strong yet graceful shapes and the decided colour scheme are appropriate and pleasing.

Other rooms afford different colour combinations and furniture forms, but those illustrated are representative, and, to my mind, are as satisfying as any modern bedrooms I have seen. When the time comes that we can turn to such pleasant things again, it is important that progress should continue from the level attained here, and along some such similar lines uniting the best elements in our unsurpassed tradition of furniture design with the directness and simplicity characteristic of the present day. It may be that for many years materials will be limited, or of inferior quality; but once satisfying shapes have been evolved, as here for an individual pattern, they can be put into general production at a popular price as was the general run of 18th-century furniture deriving from the models of such men as Sheraton and Hepplewhite.



9.—BEDROOM IN PALE AND DARK BLUES



11.—THE CREAM BEDROOM: ENGRAVED GLASS DRESSING-TABLE AND BIRCHWOOD CHAIRS



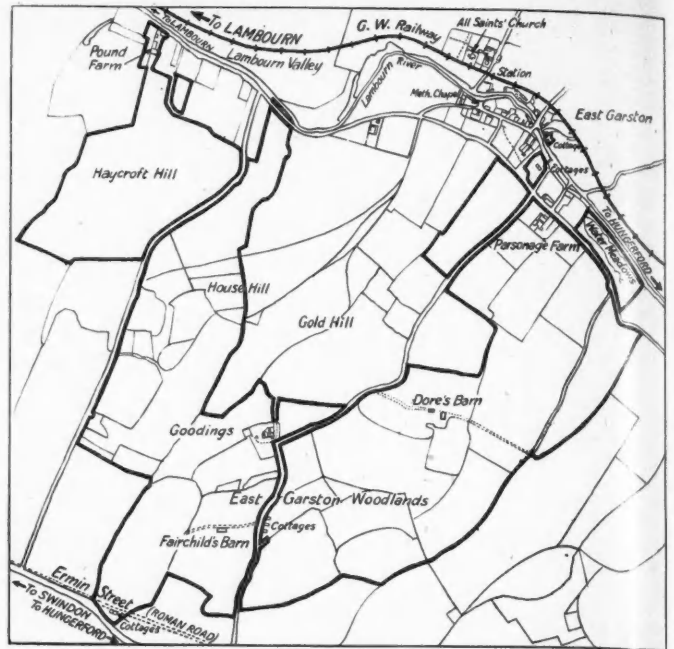
12.—A DARK BLUE AND WHITE BEDROOM

## PROGRESS AT GOODINGS

"WE prayed for rain, it is true, O Lord, but this is fair *rideeculous*!" The old and irreverent Scotch story came to my mind as I walked a few days ago over the sodden fields at Goodings, the COUNTRY LIFE estate in Berkshire. It had been raining persistently since mid-August, and raining with a cold ferocity that one usually associates with the Lake District or the west of Scotland. The clayey soil of the uplands was as heavy as lead, and ploughing, which should have been in full swing, was at a standstill. So was threshing at many farms in the district, and both beet and potato lifting were late as usual—not as seriously delayed as in some districts, but nevertheless enough to cause inconvenience. Yet only a few short months ago the whole valley was dried up, and our hay crop was ruined. That was when we prayed for rain!

A farmer needs the patience of Job, the humour of Mark Twain, and the optimism of Goebbels to put up with such weather vagaries as we have had in 1944. It hardly seems credible after the rainfall of the last few months, but it is nevertheless a fact that the River Lambourn is still dry, and has thus broken all records. No doubt it is filling its reservoirs up in the hills, but so far they have kept it dark. And our well at Dore's Barn, 135 feet deep, is also behaving temperamentally. This Summer, instead of an unlimited supply, it yielded only a meagre 100 gallons a day and even now it has not recovered anything like its full capacity. Before long, if we are not paddling about in boats by then, we hope to have water laid on in every field. That will be one anxiety the less. Two essential fields are supplied already, in addition to those already troughed when we took Goodings over, and the pipes for the rest are on the way.

Another improvement we intend to tackle in earnest this Winter is fencing. Our dairy herd is growing rapidly, and more pasture must be found. Next year we are proposing to reduce our arable acreage at Parsonage from 373 to 276, subject to the approval of the



A PLAN OF THE "COUNTRY LIFE" ESTATE

The property, which is roughly horse-shoe shaped, is enclosed by black lines. The plan does not include two large fields north of the railway



A SHELTER FOR CALVES

Inexpensively made with baled straw and some hurdles

W.A.E.C., and the difference will be laid down to long and short leys. Owing to shortage of material we shall not be able to fence it all, but we have already done 20 acres with oak posts and plain 3-strand barbed wire—the best material available at present—and we hope to round off another 72 acres before the Spring.

When we bought Goodings eighteen months ago our dairy herd numbered 17. Our total stock to-day is 82, made up of 41 dairy cows, 39 young stock, and two bulls, of which more in a moment. Of the cows 8 are pedigree, 12 grade A, 1 grade B, 2 grade C, 2 grade D, and 16 are not yet graded. Of the young stock 13 are pedigree heifers, 7 grade B, 1 grade D, and 18 ungraded.

The average yield of 19 cows completing their lactation in the last milk recording year (October to September) was 5,000 lb. That figure, we readily admit, is not high enough, but it should be remembered that most of the animals were first-calf heifers, and only the best of them will be carried round for another

year. We look forward with confidence to a much better report next time. The cows in milk at the start of the recording year were 12, and at the moment we have 31 in milk and 10 dry, due to calve this month or next. During the recording period we sent 13,545 gallons to the Milk Marketing Board. Fourteen heifer calves and 13 bulls were born between April and the end of October. Two were born dead, we sold 12 of the bulls, we have lost a cow which ate unwisely and too well, and we have got rid of two reactors.

To this bare summary of a year's constant thought and care only one other piece of news remains to be added. We have bought a second pedigree bull, Lockinge Cardinal 14th, bred by A. Thomas Loyd.

He is a good-looking youngster, with both quality and milk behind him, and we are expecting good progeny from him next Winter. For the time being he is housed in Dore's Barn, where it may be remembered we recently built a stockade, inspection pen, and so on. As soon as the weather permits he will be put out to run with the heifers in an adjoining field.

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Now something should be said about our crop yields in this unusually trying year. The local



(Right) THE NEW BULL, LOCKINGE CARDINAL 12th

By Lockinge Cardinal 12th out of Lockinge Lily 14th



delays in threshing have fortunately not affected us so far, as we have been busy in other ways. We have, however, had to do a little necessary threshing—wheat for seed, oats for feed, barley for straw and so on—and our preliminary returns may be of interest. Our prize crop is Winter oats. We grew none last year. This year, on a rather thin soil, we grew S 147—a new strain for us. Seven acres produced 19 sacks to the acre, which is five to seven sacks above the average on such a soil, and so far as we know the highest yield in the district. Our Spring oats will not be threshed until the New Year.

In spite of the wet harvest our first wheat returns are also up. Nine acres of good old Standard Red produced 12 sacks to the acre, compared with 10½ last year. Barley too has done better than we expected. The sample threshed happened to be sown last (in March) and cut last, and this particular field of Spratt Archer suffered a lot from rainstorms. Sheaves had to be turned to dry them, there were a few sprouted heads, and in some the berry was weathered. In spite of this we averaged 13 sacks to the acre, the same as last year, and that is more we got the top price of £5 a quarter for it. We shall have to reduce our wheat acreage a good deal next year, but we intend to keep up our barley.

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On the other hand (and there is always another hand in farming) we were unlucky with

our dredge corn. The previous crop was kale, and we were unable to get it up early enough to plough. Seeding was therefore retarded until April; then drought caught the crop and it stood still. Consequently the oats were ripe before the barley and by the time the barley was ripe the peas were only in flower. Result: a heavy loss of oats, peas negligible, and a crop of only 10 sacks to the acre all told. Beans were an even more miserable crop. Instead of the normal six sacks to the acre we have to thank blight and the dry Spring for a total yield of only eight sacks from six acres. To make up for this loss of good protein we shall have to thresh our linseed earlier than we intended.

Lucerne has been giving us food for thought, if not all the cattle food we hoped for. Thanks to folding sheep on it three times last year we had four good cuts on nine acres, as follows: 1½ tons of hay to the acre on May 15; a ton of silage to the acre on June 17; half a ton of hay to the acre on July 19, and another cut for hay, expected to give us another half-ton per acre, on September 4. This would have totalled about half a ton more than normal, but we lost the last cut owing to the wet weather. This and other losses made us change our plans. Lucerne usually stays where it is for six or seven years, or as long as it remains clean. In this particular crop a certain amount of black grass and couch is beginning to appear, and we had therefore decided to plough it up and plant it with barley next Spring. On reviewing the feeding position, however, we felt it necessary to leave it for one more year, taking

the first cut for hay and fencing-and-feeding for the rest of the Summer.

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This is our cropping programme at Parsonage Farm for next season, with last season's figures in brackets:

Wheat ...	77 ½ (131)	Dredge ...	30 (23)
Barley ...	68 (70)	Flax ...	0 (10)
Oats ...	25 (33)	Linseed ...	14 (10)
Roots, silage, beet, beans, vetches and forage ...			39 (27)
Long and short leys ...			119 (52)
Permanent pasture ...			76 (91)

It will be seen that we have decided to drop flax, for reasons I explained in an earlier article. For us it was simply not a profitable crop.

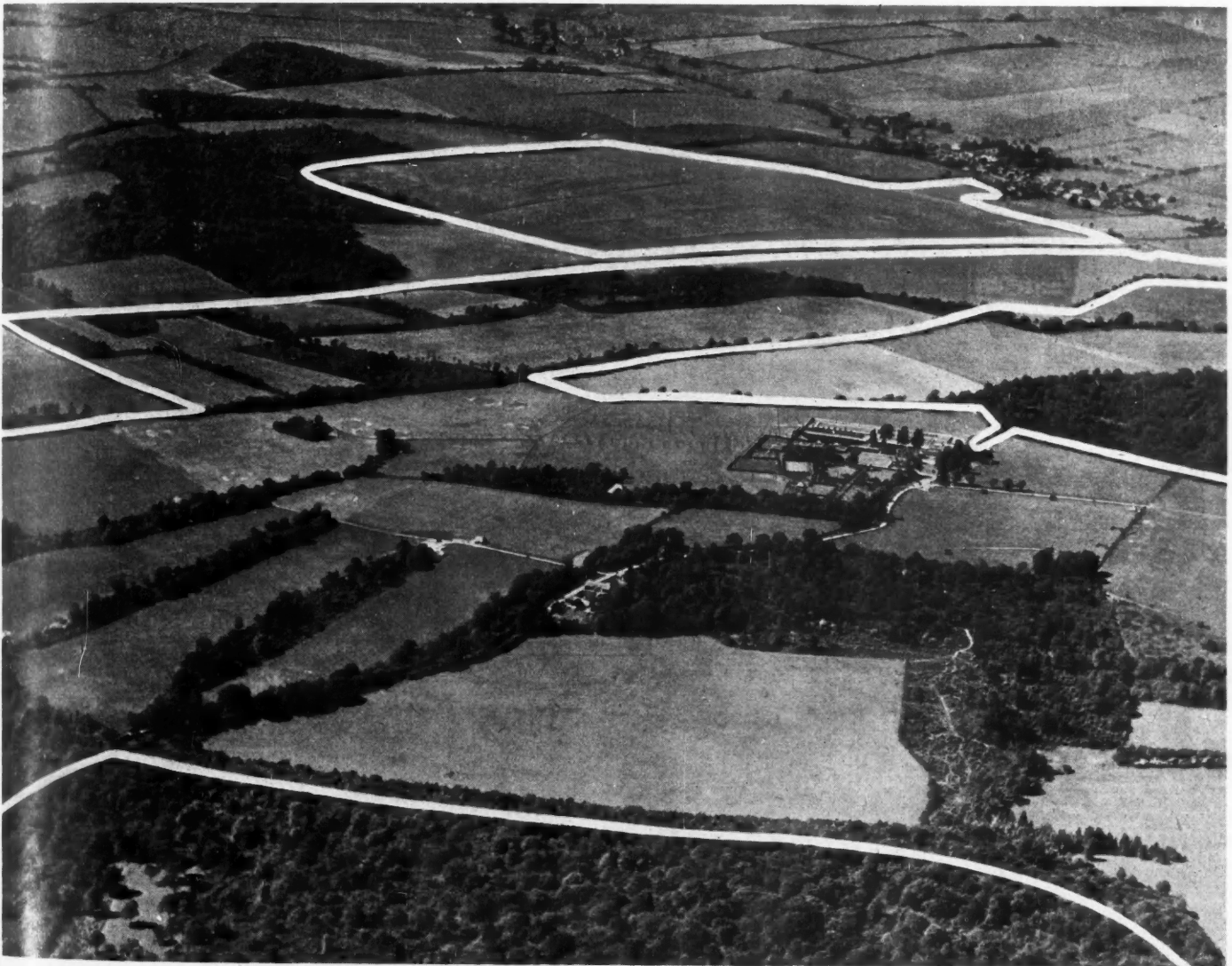
Straw yards and compost heaps have added substantially to our supply of natural manures this year. Twelve months ago all we had at our disposal was 120 tons. This year we have spread 500 tons.

A fortnight's ratting—or as a certain Authority would say, deratisation operations—has produced some interesting figures. On 471 acres the experts killed 171 rats. Of these 114 were found in the pig pens at Goodings, and only 57 in all the ricks put together.

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Now all we want is a few weeks' dry weather without too much frost. We have finished drilling our Winter wheat, but two-thirds of the ploughing remains to be done, and we ask nothing better than to be allowed to get on with it.

F. W.



PART OF THE ESTATE AS SEEN FROM THE AIR

Property enclosed by white lines. The village in the distance is Eastbury, between East Garston and Lambourn. Pound Farm (see plan above) is in this village. Goodings itself (extended since this photograph was taken) is right of the centre. The white wedge-shaped piece of land coming into the picture above it is Gold Hill, not part of the estate, and only the extreme limit of Parsonage Farm is shown (above the woodland in the foreground)

# FOREST WORKERS' HOLDINGS

By S. W. EDWARDS

**T**HE war has stimulated interest in the rehabilitation of two main sister rural industries—agriculture, and on the more remote areas of marginal land, forestry. Committees, official and otherwise, have deliberated, reported and advised on widely differing aspects of country life and ways. Most of them have been sympathetically disposed, but all seem agreed on the need for regular wages and reasonably equipped homes of a design and standard suited to the needs of occupiers whose outlook, and habits, have changed considerably during the past quarter of a century.

This tendency to appreciate a better standard of design and equipment has, as a needful objective, actuated the more progressive investigators for some years, and, although it has not always been easy to maintain the courage of conviction against financial influences and lethargy, the struggle has generally been well worth while. After all, because an individual is by accident, fortune, or design called upon to follow a particular way of life, it scarcely follows that he is prepared, or should be expected, to accept a lower standard of housing or conditions of labour than his urban cousins.

Essential services of water, artificial lighting, heating and sanitation are often difficult to supply, especially in remote rural districts, but usually these can be and often are supplied at small extra cost with a little forethought, care and study in arranging the lay-out. The Forestry Commission's Forest Workers' Holding Scheme affords a unique and interesting study in rural re-habilitation and housing. Objectively, the scheme is to create an independent body of forest workers identified by habit and interest with work in the forest. These small part-time holdings are generally grouped on the better land available within or near the forest, so as to spread and economise labour in the plantations, and in working the holdings to afford opportunities for co-operation, and to provide juvenile and female labour for work in the forest tree nurseries.

Systematic establishment of forestry holdings began in 1924, the Forestry Commissioners then recording their belief that such a scheme could make a substantial contribution to land settlement at relatively small cost. They recognised also the advantages, to both employer and employee, of establishing workers within or adjacent to their forests, rather than relying on semi-casual local labour; labour housed on the spot is also essential for forest protection.

The scheme, with modifications suggested by experience, was pursued until curtailed by the war. It consists in part-time holdings, up to 10 acres in extent, each equipped with a modern, suitably planned, cottage with out-buildings and a garden, occupying about a quarter of an acre (on this pigs and poultry are also kept) and, in addition, in many forests a bye-take of upland grazing. Renewable tenancies are for periods of 364 days.

Tenants engage in, and the Commissioners guarantee, work in the forest for 150 days in each year at agricultural or piece-work rates, at which, when skill is acquired, substantial

wages can be earned. The remainder of the holders' time is available for work on his holding or for additional forest work as the case may be. Tenants agree to watch over and protect the forest from harm, and, except for other usual obligations, are free to work their holdings in the manner they consider most beneficial. Although the benefits of co-operative buying and selling of commodities and the communal use of implements are appreciated, the co-operative spirit is yet no stronger than it is in agriculture.

A density of one holding for every 200 acres of forest is the present order. There are now over 1,500 such holdings, and many more would have been created but for the war.

A census and valuation of the livestock owned by the forest holders was taken each year from 1925 to 1938, and, from very small beginnings, the head of livestock—horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry—had increased, by the latter year, to a value of approximately £50,000, an average of nearly £40 per holding. In addition good average crops have been produced, and, though war-time exigencies have prohibited the annual census, production has been progressively stimulated.

The wide variations of cultivation and management practised by the tenants show, generally, considerable ingenuity and are evidence of an endeavour to make the most of

the opportunity provided by small holdings of this type, supplemented by a steady income from work in the forest.

Another encouraging side-light is that several holders, starting as forest workers, have, through these forest holdings, launched out into larger farms on the Commissioners' estates and elsewhere.

Forest workers' holdings have been attractive also to town dwellers with country instincts, although some have found it difficult to adjust themselves readily to the changed conditions and new situations. The success of a forest worker as a small-holder is dependent on many factors, but, as in farming ways, a most important consideration is his wife, who has to find her interest in the home, often in surroundings that are isolated and more open to the rigours of the elements than town dwellers are accustomed to. With this in mind the Forestry Commissioners have consistently endeavoured to improve housing accommodation to a standard not always found in rural districts, and, within modest limits of price, have for some time been providing buildings capable of maintenance with the minimum of expenditure, in itself no small achievement.

In the years 1936 to 1939 over 200 cottages were erected in brick, stone, concrete and timber, all conforming to a standard little, if anything, short of that recommended in the



CANADIAN RED CEDAR FORESTER'S DWELLING, CHALLOCK WOODS, KENT

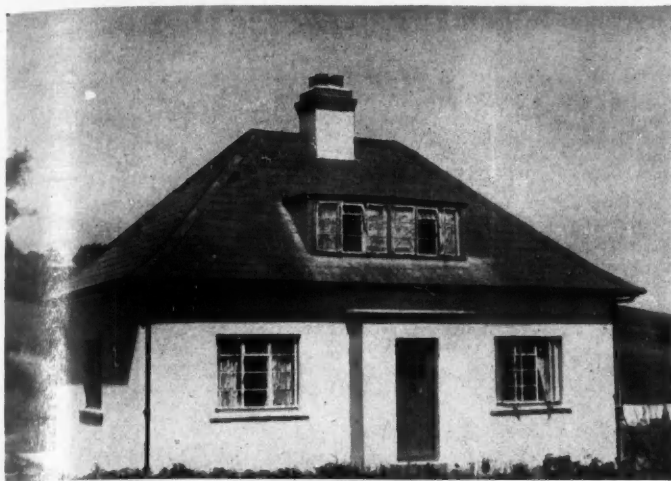


PAIR OF STONE AND TILED COTTAGES AT MYNYDD DHU, WALES



BRICK AND SLATED FORESTER'S DWELLING, HAFREN FOREST, PLYNLIMMON RANGE, MID-WALES



DETACHED BRICK AND RENDERED COTTAGE,  
CRYCHAN FORESTBRICK AND TILED COTTAGE,  
NEW FOREST

Ministry of Health's recent report *Design of Dwellings*. The selection of photographs and plans illustrating this article gives impressions of elevational treatment which has been designed to harmonise with traditional types in different parts of the country; local materials and labour have been utilized so far as practicable.

The plans show that convenience of working and internal fittings comparable with modern cottage standards have been attained. All the cavity-walled houses designed by the Commissioners' chief estate officer are light and airy, and compact without being cramped for room. Each house has a gravitational water

supply, hot and cold systems to the fitted bathrooms, plenty of cupboard room and indoor water-carriage sanitation. The average cost has been in the region of £500.

It may well be a matter of surprise that cottages with modern interiors at relatively small cost have not infrequently arisen from the ruins of more ancient dwellings, thus unobtrusively providing the advantages of healthy dwellings for the forest workers close to their work, and often enhancing the already beautiful countryside with the charm that suitably contrasted habitations can give.

The Forest Workers' Holdings Scheme

seems, therefore, to confirm that it is no vain hope to create new homes, provide work and subsistence with stability of employment in healthy surroundings and a way of life, for those with ambition, leading to better things. Derelict fields are once more occupied by thriving, contented cultivators, and a new population is arising—strong, sturdy and independent—with a growing love of land and forest becoming deeply implanted in their natures. Vigorous bodily and mentally, these forest workers are capable of doing much that is useful towards the restoration of a balance between rural and urban interests.

## MUCH ARGUMENT ~ A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

NO doubt many readers heard as I did the other night a question addressed to the learned members of the Brains Trust. The questioner wanted to know why people found it so hard to argue on certain subjects, without losing their tempers. Politics was given as an instance of such irritating topics and there was no specific mention of golf, but those listeners who were also golfers may have recalled long, futile and rotatory arguments, perhaps on a wet day, in a clubhouse which had sorely tried them. For my own part while painfully conscious of losing my temper over the playing of golf I think I can remain tolerably calm in arguing over it, perhaps because in the event of such argument I usually beat a cowardly retreat. However, since one of the members of the Brains Trust specified the topics which made them cross I will begin by setting out just one of my own.

I feel sure I must have mentioned it before, but already I begin to simmer if not positively to boil, at the thought. The argument begins quietly enough with a suggestion that a certain hole would be a better one if it were made slightly shorter. The pros and cons as to the value and interest of certain bunkers being thereby enhanced are discussed coolly and decently enough; it is urged that a good two-shotter is better than a hole that needs only "two of those and one of them" and so on. The discussion though tedious is not ill-humoured, and then, with the current setting in favour of shortening the hole, some imbecile (I am, you see, getting cross already) says "But would it be a Bogey five?" This shows such an entire lack of understanding of the functions of Bogey, such an exaggeration of his importance, such a fatuous putting of the cart before the horse that my temper gives way at once and I flounce out of the room.

In the course of the Brains Trust discussion one member made and several others backed up what I respectfully thought a wise remark. It was to the effect that we lose our tempers in argument because we are not really sure that we are right. The less we know the more

inclined we are to grow angry. The example I have just given appears to be an exception to the rule, for I know I am right and the other fellow is an idiot and yet my temper is too much for me. But there are other golfing arguments to which the rule does seem applicable. "Let us in a spirit of love enquire," as Mr. Chadband would remark, into one or two of the commonest of them, taking great care to remain cool and polite.

There is first of all the eternal question of stymies. There is here not much question of knowledge or of fact, but rather of predilection. One party says that stymies are "not fair" and further that they are an anomaly in a game which allows each party to hit his own ball without interference from the other. In a sense that party has it all his own way, since what he says is obviously true, and it is quite unnecessary for him to back up his remarks with long stories of his own personal ill-usage in the matter of a particular stymie. The other party admits all he has to say and merely answers first that he is a conservative and secondly that he likes a little luck in the game, which he deems all the better for it. Here are two directly opposite points of view which clearly can never be reconciled and, that being so, the parties will, it is to be hoped, agree to differ without any exhausting display of fury on either side.

Now for an argument which is fairly sure to make both parties angry because neither can know that he is right. It is the peculiarly futile one as to whether the players of the present are better or worse than or equal to the players of the past. It rages among the devotees of every game and can never by any possibility be decided. It is obviously futile in the case of golf because the conditions of the game, balls, clubs and courses have so greatly changed, but that does not stop it from raging. The supporters of the past are apt to think they know, because they watched and played with their heroes, of whom their juniors have only heard; but in their hearts they are well aware of being naturally and humanly prejudiced in favour of their own contem-

poraries. The supporters of the present also think they know because they have the evidence of lower scores in the black and white of print on their side. It is at this point that both begin to grow ruffled, since the elder party adduce scores done by the same player at different periods of his life, tending to show that the game has become easier. I have myself a little argument drawn from the record of Sandy Herd, which is to my mind conclusive to the effect that no conclusion is possible, but that is by the way and I do not intend to advance it again here. At a certain moment youth points out how much longer courses are than they used to be and age (I incline to think it is generally the more blameworthy of the two) retorts with the far worse lies and smaller, rougher greens of old times. When somebody says, as he inevitably does, that anybody can now kick his hat over the burn in two at the first hole at St. Andrews, whereas it once needed two fine shots, it is high time to break up the meeting. Otherwise "some hoary-headed swain may say" that golf was golf in those days and then we shall all be angry together, because we are none of us really sure.

I have just mentioned St. Andrews and that introduces another question on which we can all grow heated and on which we cannot possibly be sure we are right since it must be a matter of opinion. It is the eternal question whether course A is "better" than course B. St. Andrews is always likely to crop up because—and here I have a certain uneasy feeling of guilt—those who love that noble course incline to a patronising attitude. They tell those who know and love it less well that they do not understand, that they are very young and they will know better some day. This is naturally infuriating to the other side. Nobody can be sure, for it is simply a question of what kind of stroke and what kind of course each of us likes best. I am personally conscious of reading, let us say, *Frank Fairleigh* much oftener than a good many of Shakespeare's plays. I lazily like reading it better but I do not go so far as to say it is "better," and if I could be as reasonable about golf courses and other people could

also be as reasonable we should none of us get cross. Unfortunately each of us is apt to say of the other in the words of Miss Fanny Squeers "I pity his ignorance and despise him" and that is hard to bear. That the mass of instructed taste and opinion does hold certain things, whether works of art or golf courses, better than others is undoubted, but even so we had better not rub it in.

There is another argument, tending to fury, which has been quiescent during the war years but will soon be waking up again. We may even rejoice at its doing so, not so much

for its own sake but as a sign of happier times. That is the question as to the restriction of the golf ball. Those who want to restrict have on the face of it the better cause for growing cross with their opponents since they are or believe themselves altruists, having at heart only the good of the game, whereas the other side are selfishly concerned with their own pleasure and the length of their own drives. Here is at once a cause of irritation in an assumption of superiority by one side, and the other side, being stung to the quick, is disposed to make an ill-mannered retort. This is to the effect that the reformers

are growing old, that they can no longer hit any sort of ball very far and that they want to spoil the fun of those who can and enjoy doing so. It is the same sort of imputation of personal motives as induces the admirers of cross-bunkers to allege that their adversaries cannot and never could get a ball into the air to save their lives. When the argument reaches this pitch I am, as I said before, in favour of a discreet retirement. It is true that the Brains Trust did suggest various ways of arguing and yet keeping the temper but I cannot remember what they were.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### ANIMALS, BIRDS AND ELECTRICITY

SIR,—The following examples of bird and animal behaviour towards electricity may perhaps be of interest to your readers.

Some thirty years ago, long before the National Grid had stretched its tentacles throughout the length and breadth of the land, a high-tension line was installed to supply the works with which I was then associated. Bare wires supported on insulators on poles carried the power at 3,000 volts. The route was across several miles of rather wild, marshy land. After construction the line in due course was "made alive" and then trouble started among the birds. They would perch on the wires adjacent to the poles and, by making inadvertent contact with the insulator pins or earth wires, would get electrocuted. At the foot of any pole some half dozen corpses would be found, with perhaps another victim hanging from the wire by a claw.

This went on for perhaps a month and then something seemed to happen. There were no more electrocutions, and, in the twenty years during which I had the line under frequent observation I doubt if I found half a dozen dead birds after the first few weeks. And here is the curious thing. It was not that the birds found out that the line was dangerous and avoided it. They continued to perch on it in their thousands, even near the poles and insulators. But, almost like skilled linesmen, they learned how to avoid danger. As far as I remember the birds were mostly starlings and crows.

The second example concerns an electric mousetrap. In order to destroy mice that were troublesome in the works I laid upon the floor a copper plate about eighteen inches square. Over this, supported by four india-rubber stoppers was a second plate, about one inch above the first and about three inches less in size all round. The lower plate was earthed and the upper, smaller plate was connected to the live side of a 250-volt supply. Bait was placed both between the plates and in the centre of the upper one. To win the bait a mouse must make contact with both plates, either by stepping from one to the other or by going beneath and brushing the upper plate with his back. Result, in either case, painless electrocution.

About half an hour after first setting the trap a mouse was found between the plates dead. And this was the only mouse the trap ever caught. As with the birds, the mice did not simply avoid the trap. In order to inspire confidence the trap was set for several nights with bait but without switching on the current. Each time the bait vanished. Then it was set as before but made alive. The bait was not touched and there were no dead mice. This was repeated, sometimes with and sometimes without current. It was always the same. If the trap was safe the bait was taken. If the current was on the mice kept clear and the bait remained.

The only explanation I can suggest is that in the region of electrically charged conductors there is an electrostatic field which has directional properties. Lightly poised objects,

such as hairs, tend to place themselves along the direction of the lines of electrostatic force. Although the directive force at such a relatively low voltage would be minute, it is possible that the sensitive whiskers of the mice may have felt its effect.—R. S. BOWMAN, Dalton, Crewe Road, Sandbach, Cheshire.

[Our correspondent's suggestions are very interesting. We have had several cases under our notice where new telephone, telegraph and power wires have caused many casualties among birds, but these ceased to be dangerous after the birds got used to them. However, in these cases the birds collided with the wires and were not electrocuted.—ED.]

### A MUSEUM OF NEEDLEWORK

SIR,—A letter appeared in COUNTRY LIFE some weeks ago, pointing out the need for the preservation of old needlework.

Would it not be possible for the National Trust to set apart one of the houses in its charge for a museum of Embroidery and Costume? The London museums have large collections of both which they have no room to exhibit, and a house set apart specially, the rooms slightly furnished to the period of the dresses and embroidery, would meet a great need for needlework and dress designers, the Theatre and the general public.

I have in mind Chiswick House, a perfect example of 18th-century architecture, rapidly falling into decay, and easy to reach in peace-time.

So many people have taken to needlework, in hospital, prison camps, and during the long hours of waiting on duty in Civil Defence, but the paucity and badness of design are sufficient evidence of the need to preserve and exhibit the many beautiful specimens, for which at present there is no adequate space.—JUDITH STUDDOLME, 12, Oxford Square, W.2.

[The Chiswick Borough Council, responsible as owners for the maintenance of Chiswick House, would possibly welcome an institution prepared to equip and finance the museum suggested.—ED.]

### A LOST TYPE OF FOOD VESSEL

From Lady Thursby.

SIR,—I was very interested in the letter from Major Wade *A Lost Type of Food Vessel* in COUNTRY LIFE of November 17. I have always been very interested in the Roman kilns at Sloden, and elsewhere in the New Forest, and knew the late Mr. Heywood Sumner, who was busy excavating them in 1919 and 1921. Many had already been excavated by Wise, but Mr. Sumner found some untouched, and wrote two books, *A Descriptive Account of the Roman Pottery Made at Ashley Bails, New Forest in 1919 and An Account of Roman Pottery Sites at Sloden and Black Heath Meadow, Linwood, New Forest, 1921.*

I had permission to poke about in the already excavated kiln sites in Sloden and found several heavy thick grey sherds of Roman pottery with

these holes in them. Mr. Sumner told me he had found many too but could not guess what their use was, but in his book on Sloden—which he kindly gave me—he mentions them, and says they were *storage pots* roughly made with many thumb-impressed dents. They were for something that required air, and I have often wondered if they were made for snails. The Romans imported these, and some of their descendants are alive now on Roman sites.—MARY A. THURSBY, Fountain Court, Brook, Lyndhurst, New Forest.

### SAVE OUR TREES FROM DESTRUCTION

SIR,—Your correspondent writing under the heading *Save our Trees from Destruction* concentrates on ivy as the arch-enemy as against the now active Ministry of Supply or destructive animals—including children.

But is he right? True, I was brought up to regard ivy-clad trees almost as obscenities not to be tolerated by a self-respecting landowner. Then, when some years ago one of the Forestry Commissioners happened to be with me and I apologised for my failure entirely to cope with the pest, he assured me that ivy in fact did no harm whatever unless and until it really smothered a tree.

When I then hazarded that in that case the whole theory of the plant's malignancy might have just arisen as a rationalisation, to give countenance to elderly country gentlemen happy with their hatchets and so untempted by other and worse mischief, he agreed with me, since when the once exhilarating exercise has lost much of its old savour.

But what is the real arboricultural truth? In my own area it is the boys who do far more damage than ivy, mostly of course to young trees. We are no doubt impelled to action by much the same urges, though mine finds the less anti-social expression. What's to be done about them? Roadside trees suffer terribly, whether private or public, to the great discouragement of all those who seek to beautify the highways. One may grip an avenging hatchet or wistfully regret that the Act of George II was ever repealed (if it has been) whereby anyone "wilfully damaging an ornamental tree" was liable to be "hanged by the neck until he was dead."

But such primitive deterrents are out of fashion (though last week one man went to prison for a month and another was fined £5 for mutilating a valuable tree)—so what about the schools and their "nature study"? Are children given any understanding of or interest in and therefore respect for trees, and can they even recognise and name their several sorts? If not, ought not we who love trees, to be doing something about it?—CLOUGH WILLIAMS-ELLIS, Plas Brondanw, Llanfrothen, Merioneth, North Wales.

### RAVAGES OF IVY

SIR,—Many people share the fears of your correspondent for our large and beautiful trees suffering from the ravages of ivy, and will welcome his letter in a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE.

It may be of interest to record that about 10 years ago I wrote to

the Government department concerned, pointing out this danger; and I received a courteous but unsympathetic reply enclosing a copy of a report by a Commission declaring (after prolonged deliberation) that ivy caused no damage to trees! After recovering one's power of speech one can only ask whether the Commission ever took a walk along a country lane with their eyes open!—C. O. HUGHENDEN BAINES, Donadea Lodge, Rabell, near Holywell, Flintshire.

### THE SCENT OF HELIOTROPE

SIR,—Mr. Angus Wilson asks if the heliotrope has lost its scent as did the musk.

In spite of a very wet, sunless Summer here, some sixty plants I grew outside were as fragrant as during the last half-century. The varieties are Mme. de Bussy, Swanley Giant, Lord Roberts, and a tall grower near to the old *H. peruvianum*—all of which excel in perfume. Modern seedlings are usually unscented, and may even have an unpleasant odour!—D. MATHESON, Cullaforde, Buckfastleigh West, Devon.

### A NOTE ON BINDWEED

SIR,—Referring to *A Note on Bindweed*, by James Thorpe, in your issue of November 17, might I, having suffered the "fraying of soul and temper" occasioned by the "persistently vindictive bindweed," throw some gleam of hope to my fellow gardeners?

Some years ago I purchased an old house in the country which had been unoccupied for some years. The flower borders and vegetable gardens showed all the evidences of neglect, including a most prolific crop of the mischievous bindweed. Within three years, by the persistent labours of my gardener and myself we have the flower borders and vegetable beds free from all traces of the weed.

Plant life cannot exist without access to light and air, and through the constant cutting off, about 6 ins. below the surface, of each and every sign of the weed's leaf growth throughout the Spring and Summer, the roots eventually died. A laborious business, but well worth the time and effort spent thereon.—A. ANTHONY SCULL, Coombe Wood, Wimscombe, Somerset.

### KING'S STANDING

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Russell's letter seeking information regarding the origin of the name given to an elevated part of Ashdown Forest—a photograph of which you printed in your issue of November 17—it is generally supposed that it became known as King's Standing by reason of the fact of King Edward II having stationed himself at the spot upon the occasion of one or more of his visits to that part of Sussex while the different herds of deer and wild cattle were driven before him for his inspection or sport.

Nearby is the site of the royal palace, or hunting seat, which it is supposed Edward II built. Be that as it may, the King occasionally used it for purposes of sport when he was residing at his palace at Baresfield, a short distance away (see the



late Rev. C. N. Sutton's *Historical Notes on Withyham, Hartfield and Ashdown Forest*).

Wild deer roamed the Forest up to the close of the eighteenth century, the last, a doe, being killed by the Hartfield and Withyham Harriers just below Gill's Lap (another elevated spot a mile or so north of King's Standing) about 1808, after being accidentally sprung from a patch of brakes.

Tradition also has it that Queen Elizabeth, upon the occasion of her visit to Mayfield Palace, during one of her royal progresses, used King's Standing to view the inspection of

C. PAIGE DICKINS, *Garlon Grange, Allon, Hampshire*.

### RELICS OF A BAT'S HUNTING

SIR,—I noticed that a bat which haunts my garden frequently resorted to an open porch. Upon inspection I discovered dozens of moth wings, on a narrow ledge where the rough-cast meets the lintel.

The variety was surprising, and although the dark corner was difficult to photograph it is possible to distinguish on my print several of the following: yellow underwing, angle

fully realised, as an entomologist, what a heavy toll bats must take of our *Noctuidae*.—WALTER J. C. MURRAY, *Murray's School, Horam, East Sussex*.

[The long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* is a hunter of the larger insects and is noteworthy for its habit of taking its prey home to its den to devour its captures at ease.—ED.]

### RASPBERRIES IN NOVEMBER

*From Baroness Beaumont.*

SIR,—It may interest your readers to know that I have just picked (November 27) a nice dish of raspberries despite very variable weather and some quite sharp frosts at night.—BEAUMONT, *Carlton Towers, Goole, Yorkshire*.

### CLINK

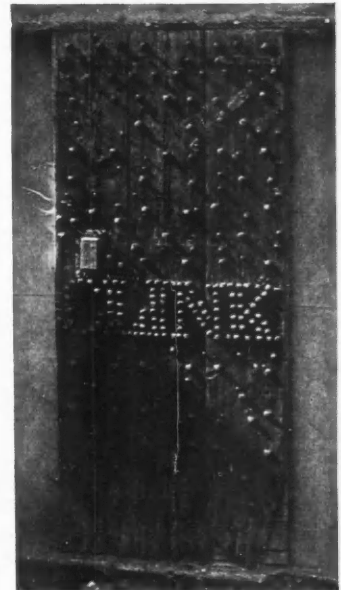
SIR,—In Clink Street, Southwark, we have a reminder of the old prison of that name, and it is probable that many Londoners would consider that the expression "In the clink" was a slang term peculiar to London.

While staying recently near Bude in Cornwall, I was interested, as a Londoner, to find the word, outlined in bolt-heads on the door of the old lock-up at Stratton. I have since learned that "clink" was in common use in Devon and Cornwall to describe a small cell or prison used to accommodate vagabonds and drunkards, and, although this is the only instance I have found where the door was permanently labelled in this fashion, your readers may know of others.—E. S. HOOPER, 92, *Crouch Hill, Hornsey, N.8.*

### AN UNIDENTIFIED BYGONE

SIR,—I venture to suggest that "an unidentified bygone" in your Correspondence columns of November 10 is no more than the homely boot scraper. I have seen specimens, somewhat similar, made I presume by local blacksmiths, during the last 20 years. I should very much doubt that it has any connection with forestry, as suggested in the letter.—H. LANCELOT ROBSON, *Chantry Field, Echo Pit Road, Guildford, Surrey*.

SIR,—The "S" iron pictured on page 825 of your issue for November 10 was formerly used to prevent



A CORNISH LOCK-UP

*See letter: Clink*

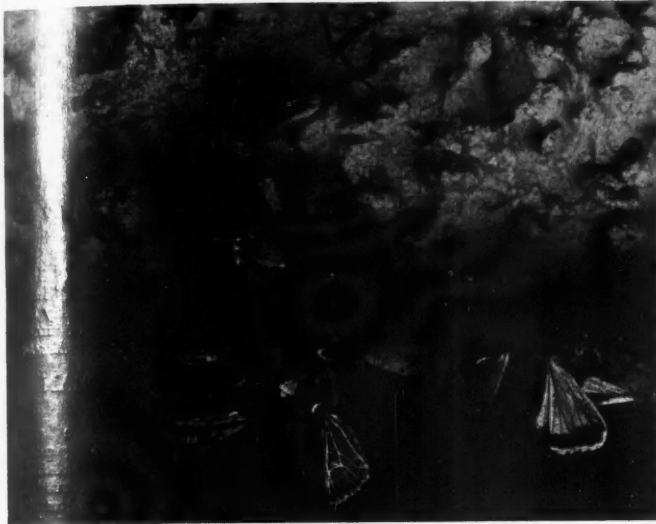
the tops of posts from splitting and so letting in the water and causing rot.

The old oak warping posts, of a century ago, at Southwold Harbour were treated to three or four apiece and I preserved one for a number of years. The bottom was a cutting edge so that they could be driven with a mawl, but those had no spike, which was perhaps used for soft wood posts.—ERNEST R. COOPER, *Warren Hill, Woodbridge, Suffolk*.

### A SPINNING GALLERY

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. E. Richardson, may like to see this photograph of the cottage at Tilberthwaite which has one of the finest spinning galleries in the whole of Lakeland.

It belongs to the National Trust and is situated on the left of the road ascending past Tilberthwaite Ghyll and giving access to Little Langdale, being a few hundred yards beyond.



IN THE BAT'S DARK PANTRY

*See letter: Relics of a Bat's Hunting*

Forest stock, while Henry VIII is said to have witnessed a hunt from this vantage spot and to have become acquainted with Anne Boleyn who was at that time staying at Heron's Court, near Uckfield.—A. W. PERKINS, *St. Michael's Old Rectory, St. Annes Hill, Lewes, Sussex*.

### ACCORDING TO TRADITION

SIR,—I notice that in your issue of November 24 a correspondent enquires the origin of the name, King's Standing.

I have lived within sight of this forest landmark all my life and three generations of my family have occupied a farm within the same distance.

Tradition has it that it was a favourite hunting stance of King Henry VIII, who owned the Forest, and the spot is where he first met Anne Boleyn, whose home was about ten miles distant.

It is an ancient circular earth-work surrounded by a ditch and bank, enclosing a clump of Scotch firs situated on the highest spot, about four hundred yards from a farm on the Crowborough Warren Estate which bears a similar name.—CHARLES J. PARRIS, *Crowborough, Sussex*.

### TRAVELS OF "COUNTRY LIFE"

SIR,—I thought perhaps you might be interested to hear of the travels of my copies of *COUNTRY LIFE*. I send them to my mother who in turn despatches them to her brother. He posts them to his son serving with the R.A.F. in Burma and the following is an extract from a letter from him.

"These copies of *COUNTRY LIFE* have quite a few adventures. When we are all finished with them they circulate among members of the Squadron and then I collect them and send them to a Squadron in Italy which passes them on to an officers' club in one of the Italian towns."

The wide appeal made by this excellent paper makes it an ideal publication for our men overseas.—



A FAMOUS LAKELAND SPINNING GALLERY

*See letter: A Spinning Gallery*

the entrance to the former.—WALTER A. POUCHER, *Courtlands, Woodland Way, Kingswood, Surrey.*

### MEMORIES OF TURNER

SIR,—I found some old letters and papers belonging to my father, Henry Harper, relating to artists of his day, among them some regarding that great genius J. M. W. Turner, R.A., which may be of interest.

"Lucas speaking of the high prices Turner's pictures now obtained said to Mr. Cousins, R.A.: Ah! we remember, Cousins, a different state of things—we remember when the Critics used to say 'Another picture by the Madman,' and that even the R.A.'s used to wonder what to do with them, and made all sorts of jokes about them!"

Lord Egremont owner of Petworth where Turner was often a welcome guest tells this story:

His Lordship was complaining to Turner that he had put a bunch of



### THE THIEF

See letter: *Stolen Fruits*

carrots floating in the sea and he said "Carrots don't float." "Yes they do," said Turner. His Lordship rang the bell, told the servant to bring in a washtub and then fill it with water and bring some carrots. When done he flung them in—they sank. "There," said he, "I told you carrots did not float." "I cannot help it," said Turner, "I must have my bit of red!" —FRANCIS HARPER, *Wickins Manor, Charing, Kent.*

### OLD FORT WILLIAM

SIR,—When the West Highland Railway was extended to Fort William in 1894, most of the old Hanoverian fort, with its associations with the Jacobite risings, was demolished to make room for the building of engine sheds and the laying out of a locomotive yard. The only block of buildings left standing was the Governor's House, and this was used to house the railway company's staff until 1935, when the local authority stepped in and declared the building unfit for human habitation. Just about the beginning of the present war the historic old structure was finally demolished, but not before the Governor's Room, panelled with Scotch pine, was removed and re-erected in the West Highland Museum in Cameron Square, Fort William.

Although, like many others, I regret the demolition of the last piece of the old fort, I am, nevertheless, pleased that this room, one of the most historic in Scotland, has been preserved, for here on December 31, 1691, MacLain, chief of the Macdonalds of Glencoe, interviewed Colonel Hill, Governor of the "Garrison of Inverlochy," in a belated effort to take the "Oath of Allegiance." Governor Hill informed MacLain that he was unable to administer the oath and that he must go to the magistrate at Inveraray. The result of this refusal was the tragedy of Glencoe.

The time in which the oath might be taken expired next day and MacLain was too late.

The room is again painted its original shade of greenish-blue, known as "William and Mary Blue," the colour being determined by removing the many layers of paint and paper until the first coat of paint was revealed. I would mention that the books lying on the table, in the photograph, have nothing to do with the fort, but are the visitors' books from the Ben Nevis Observatory, established in 1883 and closed down in 1904.—CYRIL R. ROWSON, *Liverpool.*

### STOLEN FRUITS

SIR,—My cat dislikes bread intensely—he will not even eat bread and milk. But as his meat ration is "in short supply" it has to be eked out with the hated bread, well soaked in gravy. Even so he picks out all the meat and finishes the bread only as a last resort when driven to it by hunger. Yet while his meal is being prepared if the dish with dry bread only in it is left on the table, he will jump on a chair and wolf down large pieces, with apparent enjoyment.

I am sure this is solely because he feels he is not intended to have it!

Is this intelligence—or cattishness?—GEORGE GIRLING, *West Marden, Chichester, Sussex.*

### PHEASANT DOWN THE CHIMNEY

SIR,—Many of your readers must have had extraordinary experiences while shooting, and I wonder whether any

can tell of a stranger incident than one which occurred when some friends and I had a day after cock pheasants at Tinden End, Saffron Walden, Essex, twenty years ago.

Pheasants were flying particularly well and six or seven cocks were killed by myself, including a piebald, as they were flying over the house of our host, the late Mr. H. L. Beale, and the high elm trees nearby. Afterwards the piebald pheasant, which had been tried for several times on other shooting days, could not be found. The chimneys of the house all had 6-ft.

umbrella pots on them, with small side openings at the top, so that it was not thought possible that the bird could have fallen down a chimney. As, however, the pheasant was not found, Mr. J. F. Wilks laughingly said that we should find it up the chimney when we got back to the house.

During the afternoon, Mr. Beale's maid did, indeed, find the pheasant dead in

the grate in one of his bedrooms. Evidence that it had fallen down the chimney was unmistakable.—H. W. HOLBEN, *Barton, Cambridge.*

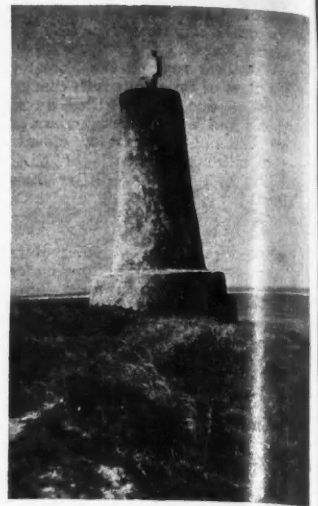
### DUG UP IN HARROW

SIR,—In some of your recent issues a number of trade tokens were illustrated, and I think the one shown (twice its actual size) in the accompanying photograph may be of interest. It was dug up in my garden a short time ago. The little figure in the centre seems particularly interesting, and I wondered if anyone could throw any light on it. The wording round the edge is "At ye Will Somers Backside," and



### A TRADE TOKEN OF 1666

See letter: *Dug Up in Harrow*



### VASCO DA GAMA'S PILLAR OF THANKSGIVING, 1499

See letter: *An East African Memorial*

on the other side "Olde Fish Street 1666," with "W" over "I M" in the centre. The coin has apparently been buried for a great length of time.—J. R. WALTON, *Harrow, Middlesex.*

### AN EAST AFRICAN MEMORIAL

SIR,—The commemorative pillar shown in the accompanying photograph was erected on the East African coast at Malindi by the Portuguese explorer, Vasco da Gama, in gratitude for his safe return (January 7, 1499) from a perilous voyage to India. The surmounting cross, incised on the seaward side with the arms of Prince Henry of Portugal, remains as originally erected, more than 400 years ago. The pillar itself, however, has been subjected from time to time to rough and ready restoration. Its cemented surface, unfortunately, has been disfigured by profuse autograph on the part of thoughtless visitors (most of the rudely scribbled names are Goan).

Malindi, once an important seaport (it figures in *Paradise Lost*), is now a sleepy but delightful holiday-resort basking in the memories of its former glories and much frequented by Kenya residents whom the war has prevented from returning to Europe on leave.—NORAH FORSTER, *Nairobi, Kenya Colony.*

### THE TUSCAN FATTORIA

SIR,—So much is written now of farming, difficulties of labour, housing and transport for farm-hands, perhaps some of your readers may care to see the photograph of one of the old fortified farms, *fattorie*, of Tuscany. In Tuscany, that rich agricultural country, farming is carried on still in very much the same primitive way as in the days of Virgil and Horace, those two lovers of country life—Virgil so sincere a country lover, Horace rather a *poseur*. But this is by the way.

My photograph shows an important fortified farm (*fattoria*), probably of the fifteenth century, near Sieci. The square battlements identify it with the Guelph faction; the swallow-tailed show Ghibelline sympathies. Within these spacious buildings lived the *fattore*, his family, and the *contadini* families of all those working the land for the *padrone*, to whom the *fattore* was entirely responsible, while the labourers, men and women, were subservient to him. No wages were paid; the land was let out to the *contadini* who worked on the 50-50 system. I write in the past tense, but this mediæval custom persists to this day and very successfully it is. The *fattoria* near Sieci is a vast building, capable of resisting a siege in old days; a mill is attached and was working vigorously on the lovely Autumn day when we saw it.—DOROTHY HAMILTON DEAN, *Buckfastleigh, Devon.*



### WHERE THE TRAGEDY OF GLENCOE WAS BEGUN

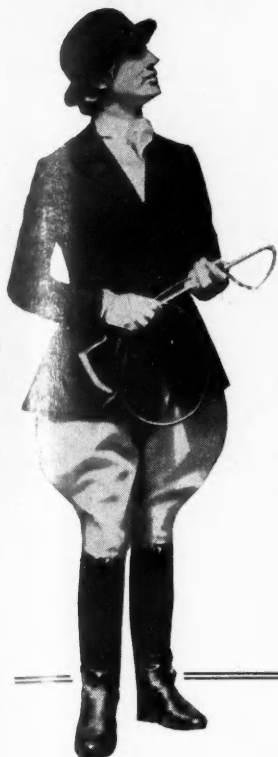
See letter: *Old Fort William*



### A FORTIFIED FARM NEAR SIECI

See letter: *The Tuscan Fattoria*





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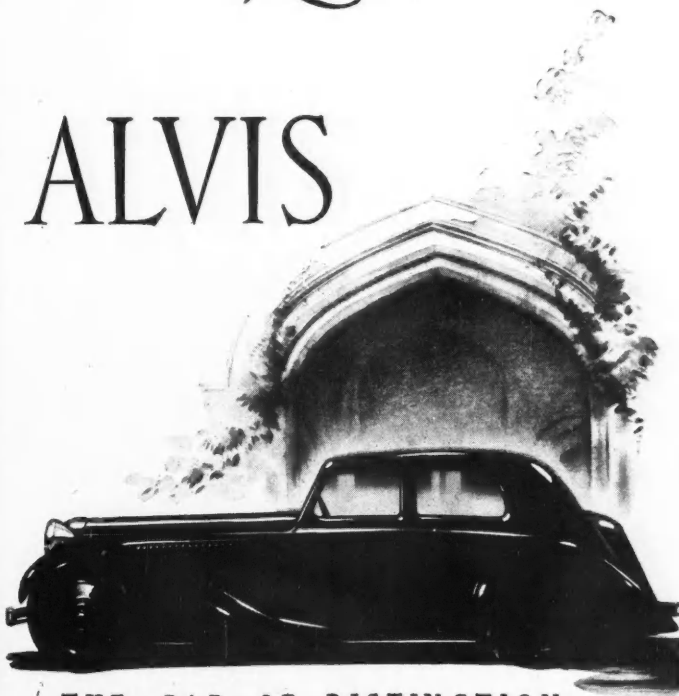
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## FARMING NOTES

# NATIONAL PROSPERITY AND AGRICULTURE

**I** AM not able to fathom the stormy waters through which N.F.U. Headquarters has been steering the ship in recent weeks. An experienced pilot has been dropped. The new captain is full of energy and enthusiasm. We have yet to see whether he can read the compass and steer the ship with an unerring hand. Certainly Mr. J. K. Knowles, this year's President and General Secretary designate for next year, is not afraid to speak out for agriculture when the opportunity offers. An invitation to lunch with the Rotary Club of London gave him a chance to set out in plain terms the contribution which agriculture, here and overseas, can make to the prosperity of Britain's manufacturing towns.

### Purchasing Power

**N**O ONE will dispute with Mr. Knowles when he says that the markets which the urban manufacturer wants depend on the purchasing power of agriculture throughout the world. More than two-thirds of the people in the world are engaged in food production. Before the war most of them were in a poor plight. Food was cheap in this country because other markets were closed to the big primary producing countries. They had to subsidise their farmers to keep a footing here. It was indeed a crazy world. Of the 22 countries sending butter here, all were giving their producers subsidies to keep them going and the great wheat producers—Canada, Australia and the United States—were subsidising their growers heavily. This expedient did not make them prosperous. In fact, our export trade declined seriously, factories were idle for long periods, we reached the peak figure of 3 million unemployed, spent up to £125 million a year on public assistance and the dole. I wonder whether the Rotary Club of London agreed with Mr. Knowles that this was not good business either for the farmer or for the industrialist.

### Export Market

**T**HERE are some hard facts which bear repetition. Even before the war, in 1935, agriculture in Britain alone had a market worth £285 million a year compared to £281 million for iron and steel, £194 million for chemicals and £179 million for clothing. Even at pre-war values the market which agricultural Britain offers to urban industry has expanded greatly to-day. Mr. Knowles did not venture a figure. I should put the increase at at least 30 per cent. and it is an increase which will continue. We have ploughed up 7 million acres of grass land mainly for cropping with cereals and potatoes. These are not high-value products compared with milk, pig meat, eggs and fruit.

### National Economy

**T**HE trend from now onwards will be to concentrate more on these high-value products not only for their nutritional value but because increased production at home will save us precious foreign exchange. A Chancellor of the Exchequer, hard-pressed to find dollars for raw materials and other essential products, will be glad to rely on home production for a big part of the more expensive food products. The rural community—farmers, farm-workers, their wives and families—will want to trade with every type of business on a bigger scale than ever before. This assumes that prices and wages can be maintained at what Mr. Knowles called "a reasonable level." Personally, I cannot see that there is any alternative at any rate for four years to

come and, by then, British agriculture should have so firmly established itself in the national economy that Parliament, whatever political party may be in power, would recognise that a fully productive agriculture is a sound basis for national economy.

### Cheap Food

**T**HERE will, of course, be the economists of the old school who will decry any effort to establish a big agriculture in this island. They point to the cheap price of much of the imported food we used before this war. They must be asked to make a true reckoning and strike a balance sheet in terms not only of money but of employment and human happiness. Plans of all kinds have been made for the welfare of the community—education, insurance against want, fuller medical services and so on. They will come to nothing unless we have a sound basis for employment in town and country. Agriculture can play a big part in providing this.

### "Farming To-day"

**I**T was good to hear the voices of Miss Janet Strang, Mr. W. T. Price and Mr. Elwyn Jones in the *Farming To-day* broadcast the other Thursday evening. I thought they came through clearly, but the human voice does suffer in transmission when the original speech is made in New England, Chicago or Calgary, as it was in this instance, to be recorded on discs and flown to New York for transmission by beam to this country. Their voices I thought sounded rather flat, but by what they said they are certainly seeing many interesting things and having many interesting experiences. These exchange visits between British agriculturists and farmers from the United States and Canada who have been over here are laying the foundation for a much closer understanding between the farming communities. We shall need to understand each other if we are to take our part in stabilising the world's food markets. Bargain wheat and give-away butter did not help the States or Canada any more than it helped us. The farmers there know that. There has been some talk in business circles about maintaining the domestic prices of food products in the States and having a lower export price which would in fact be a subsidised price. I hope that the personal meetings between farmers there and here, and the N.E.U. delegation which is now traversing the Dominions, will convince farmers everywhere that isolationist ideas will not work any better after this war than they did after the last.

### Store-pig Prices

**S**MALL pigs do not make a big price in these days; 30s. a head seems to be the rate in my district for well-grown weaners, that is youngsters coming off the sow at 8-9 weeks old. Six months ago such pigs were worth 55s.-60s. Then there was plenty of camp swill to be had for the collecting. If it was an American camp the quality of the scraps was high and the pigs thrived well. Now we have no such swill in quantity and in consequence store-pig prices have slumped. Pig meat is one of the products we can certainly provide in increased amount for ourselves in the future, and the day should not be far distant when farmers will not only be allowed some increase in feeding-stuff coupons for pigs, which has already been promised, but also be allowed to keep some of their barley for stock-feeding if they so desire.

CINCINNATUS.



## THE ESTATE MARKET

## SALE OF OVER SIX MILES OF SCOTTISH FARMS

CONSIDERABLY more than six miles of Scottish farms have been privately sold since they were offered at auction, by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. in conjunction with Captain Percy Wallace. The property is the major part of Applegirth, in the county of Dumfries, and the sale comprises the agricultural portion; that is to say, the mansion and adjoining land have still to be sold. The total rent roll of the entirety exceeds £4,900 a year, and that of the agricultural part only, just over 4,180 acres, is £4,236 a year. This is in respect of 19 farms, some small holdings, houses and cottages, a quarry, 397 acres of woodland, miles of fishing in the Annan and the Kinnel Water, and various minor interests. The transaction follows closely on the withdrawal, announced recently in the Estate Market page of COUNTRY LIFE in the region of £77,000, and our surmise that an early sale was likely to ensue after the Berkeley Square offer by auction. Applegirth is only 30 miles from Carlisle, and an hour's journey from both Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Dunloskin, nearly 400 acres, has been sold by Messrs. Walker, Fraser and Steele. It includes Dunan Hill, after which the town of Dunoon is named. Dunloskin is a mile from both Kinn and Dunoon piers, in the Argyllshire district of Cowal.

## SPORT IN THE GLYME

PROBABLY not many people could say offhand just what the foregoing heading imports. The Glyme is a small Oxfordshire stream not far from Woodstock and Banbury, and it is noted for its abundance of crayfish, or as the local name goes, crawfish. Catching this crustacean can, as sport, hardly rank with the dullest of coarse fishing with a rod and line. In the Glyme district it is customary to bait circular nets, that are formed round a hoop, with liver or other very "ripe" bait. The nets are sunk to the bed of the stream in the daytime, and at night the nets are pulled up and as many as a score of this strange fresh-water relative of the lobster may reward the effort. The flavour of the crawfish is said to be better than that of the lobster. The fact that crayfish abound in the Glyme is mentioned by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley in their announcement that they have, jointly with Messrs. Franklin and Jones, sold Glympton Park. This estate of 1,021 acres, conveniently situated for approach either from Oxford or Chipping Norton, includes a Georgian house that stands on a site scheduled in *Domesday*. The grounds are laid out in terraces that lead down to the river, which has there been widened to form a little lake. As a shooting property Glympton Park has considerable claims, yielding good bags of partridges and pheasants, and in the two miles of the Glyme, belonging to Glympton Park, plenty of large trout can be caught. Three farms and almost all the little village of Glympton pass with the house and park. "Capability" Brown, who boasted that "The Thames will never forgive me for what I have done at Blenheim," made use of the Glyme to form the lake at Blenheim.

## BARLEYTHORPE: THE PORTION OFFERED

SOME confusion seems to have occurred because of recent auction announcements concerning Barleythorpe, Oakham. The portion that has been lately stated to be under the hammer is the late Earl of Lonsdale's stud farm, comprising the western half of the village.

Major Lawrence Kimball, M.P., purchased the late Earl's former house, Barleythorpe Hall and the stables and home farm, in 1928. The Hall was destroyed by fire in 1933, and two years later the new Hall was built. Major Lawrence Kimball owns the eastern half of the village, consisting of the modern house, the stables, the gardens, a number of cottages, and approximately 230 acres, together with farms that are well let, and the home farm which is in hand. Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. some years ago acted for Major Kimball in his purchase from the Earl of Lonsdale. When hunting is fully resumed the ideal situation of Barleythorpe will be more than ever appreciated.

## HOME OF A PEDIGREE HERD

THE Monmouth residential and agricultural estate of 250 acres, called Croft-y-Bwla, home of a pedigree herd of Friesians, has been sold since the auction. Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley acted for the vendor.

Mill House and the mill, at Maiden Newton, have been sold with 3 acres, at an auction in Dorchester, by Mr. Leslie Waite (Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff's Yeovil office) for £5,200, after animated competition.

The Leeds office of Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff has, in the last week or two, effected sales exceeding a total of £22,000, including Highfield, an Elizabethan house in 34 acres, for £8,250. It was at one time occupied by Colonel Sir George Duncombe, Bt.

## SEASIDE HOUSES EAGERLY BOUGHT

BOURNEMOUTH auctions, by Messrs. Fox and Sons, are producing high totals, the steady demand for freehold residential property being a marked feature. One such lot, Old Pines, in Queen's Park West Drive, changed hands for £3,550, by order of executors. Another, known as Dunelm, in Westminster Road, Branksome Park, realised £3,500. This, too, was an executor's sale. A leasehold, Eastmoor, in Milton Road, Bournemouth, sold for executors, for £2,975, is held for 99 years from 1910, at a ground rent of 11 guineas a year. The rateable value is £76 a year, and the rates are only eight shillings in the £.

Hove freeholds, after a long period of comparative quiescence, have come under the hammer with successful results. Messrs. Fox and Sons' Brighton office has sold No. 3, Salisbury Road, for £2,650; 34, Selborne Road, for £1,925; 64, St. Aubyns, for £1,750; and other property. Inland Sussex sales by the same firm include Sussexdown, at Sullington, near Storrington, a freehold modern house in almost 7 acres, with possession of all but one small item, for £9,800.

## CHESTNUT UNDERWOOD

A RECORD price for chestnut underwood has just been realised at an auction by Messrs. Alfred J. Burrows, Clements, Winch and Sons, on Mrs. V. M. Nicolson's Sissinghurst Castle estate, near Cranbrook, Kent. A couple of acres of 16-year-old chestnut underwood realised £135 an acre, and other lots went at round about £100 an acre. In the past the top figure was thought to have been reached when from £77 to £80 an acre was paid. Evidently chestnut, at any rate, can be a very remunerative crop.

## A CAMBRIDGE RESIDENCE

THE late General Sir Layton Blenkinsop lived until lately at Melstead, a property of 4 acres, at Melbourn, near Cambridge. Mr. D. L. January jointly with Messrs. Bidwell and Sons has just disposed of it.

ARBITER.



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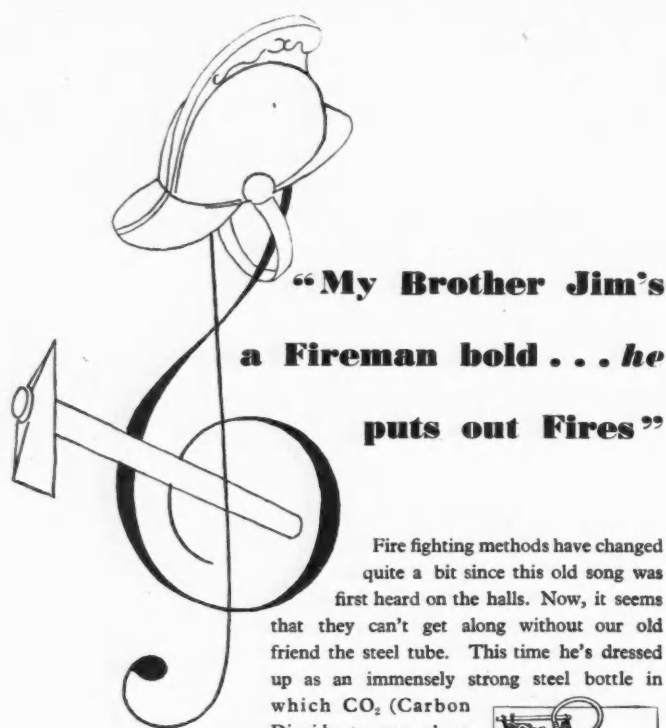
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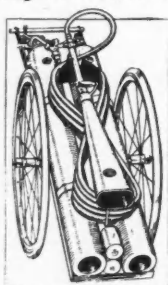
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## NEW BOOKS

# THE SOCIAL CLIMB

Reviews by **HOWARD SPRING**

**T**HE journal of Mary Lady Monkswell, covering the years 1873 to 1895, published by John Murray under the title *A Victorian Diarist* (16s.), contains towards the end the phrase: "The world is divided into two parties—those who have held office and those who have not." The diarist notes with satisfaction: "Bob's foot is now on the lowest rung of the ladder—he has, I believe, entered the charmed circle."

### GREAT TRIERS

Bob was Lady Monkswell's husband. He had just become a Lord in Waiting: the lowest rung indeed; and he was not destined to climb much higher. Politically, the Colliers—the Monkswells—never amounted to much, but Lord and Lady Monkswell were great triers, great lookers-out for the swirl of the skirts of happy chance. The diary gives an excellent picture of the endless hob-nobbing, visiting, entertaining, that made up the life of a hopeful political hostess in good King Gladstone's glorious day.

Sir Robert Collier, who hailed from Plymouth, was a Victorian judge who became the first Lord Monkswell. He is the most forceful person in the book: a man holding firm to the patriarchal notion of the family, a disciplinarian, but with a flash of the artist in him. He used to exhibit regularly at the Royal Academy, and his younger son, John Collier, became well known as an artist.

A lot of painting went on in that family. The writer of this diary (a daughter of J. A. Hardcastle, for many years a Liberal M.P.) who married the first Lord Monkswell's eldest son, did not do badly with the brush, as a reproduction of one of her pictures shows; and then there was not only old Monkswell at it, and his son John, but also John's wife, who was a daughter of Huxley.

It must have been a strange menagerie, for old Lord Monkswell liked them all to be together. Before he became a peer he built a great establishment on the Embankment at Chelsea. "A big red house where we shall all live, with stables, billiard room and studio—a separate drawing-room for me, and a study for Bob."

### AN INEFFECTIVE PERSON

If the grandiose old man from Plymouth, who had made up his mind forty years before he became a peer that he would call himself Monkswell, is the dynamic focus of the book. Bob is the perfect picture of an ineffective person trying hard to cash in on family reputation and never making an individual mark.

He entertains and travels, he is a faithful Gladstonian Yes-man; but he never gets into Parliament till his father's death puts him into the Upper House.

Lady Monkswell has far more force of character and opinion than her Bob or at any rate far more stubbornness in holding

on to views she had inherited. Bob was prepared to follow Gladstone into the Home Rule camp, but she was not.

### NO GLADSTONIAN

Her references to Gladstone, almost idolatrous at first, are tinged with malice once he became a Home Ruler. So, too, in domestic matters. She was a true Victorian in sticking to the prescribed line of conduct, though in one of her earliest entries she notes: "Absurd and mistaken in the extreme are the laws of intercourse between unmarried men and women." That might be her private opinion, but public practice was another matter. Thus, when her husband's brother married his dead wife's sister—another Miss Huxley—having to go abroad to do it, for it was then not lawful in this country, she was deeply affronted and broke with John Collier for good. The last entry of the diary records the death of Huxley and adds: "He has been the cause of immense trouble, sorrow, expense and estrangement in this family, and has destroyed the faith of many."

Lady Monkswell had a witty enough pen and could knock off a portrait in a few lines. The first Miss Huxley to marry into the family "is quite the artist's wife. Her hair comes down, she forgot the band to her dress, she is always wanting pins, etc. She is a dear child, full of brightness and life."

It is this which makes us regret that she did not let herself go a bit more on some of the people she met. "We dined with Mrs. Merivale and met Anthony Trollope, who is pleasanter out hunting than in a drawing-room." Sir Lewis Pelly "told me some good stories about George Eliot." "I sat between an agreeable Mr. Leveson Gower and Henry James, the American." Oh, dear! What tantalising and insufficient records!

### OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

The only writer we get a real picture of is Oliver Wendell Holmes, whom she met during an American tour. "The fun was to see him with his tall man-of-the-world handsome son," for O. W. H. himself was a little dried-up chip. An American friend once told me that one day O. W. H. was walking in the streets of Boston with this tall Adonis, and an acquaintance shouted: "Ha! A block of the old chip!"

The fact would seem to be that, though Lady Monkswell was much interested in painting, and to some extent interested in books, her life's passion was the political advancement of her husband into the magic circle of "those who have held office." He

did—at last and for a little while—become Under Secretary for War; but he makes so pale a personal showing in these pages that his wife's task, I imagine, was a pretty thankless one. Bob does not seem to have been one of those predestined to make a stir in the world. What was demanded of a politician, and

### A VICTORIAN DIARIST

By **Mary**

**Lady Monkswell**  
(John Murray, 16s.)

### THE ENGLISH SPIRIT

By **A. L. Rowse**

(Macmillan, 12s. 6d.)

### BOOKS AND MYSELF

By **Sir John**

**Hammerton**  
(Macdonald, 15s.)



what political life amounted to, were not matters about which Lady Monkswell had any illusions. She and her husband listened to Rosebery addressing the boys of an industrial school. "He made a speech to the boys after giving the prizes; it was just the right length, he said exactly the right thing—(not that he believes at all what he said, Bob remarked afterwards)—in a deep, rich, far-sounding voice, without the slightest awkwardness, shyness or *mauvais honte*. He looks to me like a man who fears neither God nor man, as clever as you please, knowing his own mind, perfectly determined to get on, hard, clear-headed and unremorseful. Nobody could be better fitted out than he for the nerve-destroying, heart-breaking work of political life."

One can imagine Lady Monkswell laying down her pen after writing this passage, checking her Bob's qualities against these which made the perfect politician, and sadly shaking her head.

Some of the entries are eye-openers. "I think it is a very good move to go in for the elections with a surplus of £5,000,000 and a promise to abolish the Income Tax." It certainly would be a good recipe for a delirious majority to-day!

#### GOOD STORIES

There are some good stories, and I liked best the one of John Bright, that master of oratory, giving a few elementary tips to Lord Hartington. For one thing, he said, keep the voice up at the end of a sentence. And to that poor Hartington replied that that would be all right if he could get as far as the end of a sentence.

Altogether, I found this a fascinating book. It ends just over the threshold of my own lifetime, and yet,

apart from the unchanging human values, it seems to deal with much that is already as dead as mutton.

Mr. A. L. Rowse, in *The English Spirit* (Macmillan, 12s. 6d.), gathers together a number of essays, some of them very slight indeed, but all more or less earning a place within the title he has chosen. In his introduction he speaks of many typically English things—certain men and women, certain great buildings and famous localities—and adds: "It comes as something of a surprise to see how that theme runs back beyond the years when these things have been so imperilled. And just as it has been something in the spirit of these things which has helped us to survive the danger, so the danger to them has heightened our sense of their value, of their being very precious to us."

#### DO WE CARE?

Well, let us hope that this is so; but don't let us take it for granted. There are, happily, those who feel with Mr. Rowse about such matters, but as to their being "very precious" to the general run of men, I am not at all sure. The depredations upon our cultural heritage in the years between the wars—the slaying of lovely villages, the wrecking of beautiful town squares, the coming of Wren churches into the market—suggest a pretty widespread notion that "the English spirit" didn't matter very deeply to a lot of people with a lot of power.

"Why," asks Mr. Rowse, "should we not be reasonably and instructedly proud of the extraordinary record and achievement of this country?" And, indeed, why should we not? But there are still plenty of people who would blot out the physical and

corporal record of that achievement if a roadside garage meant twopence more of profit. We mustn't take regeneration for granted. There is much still to be done by those who believe that England goes deeper than a ledger balance. In the meantime, here is this admirable contribution in which Mr. Rowse worthily celebrates some famous English men and women, and the places they lived in, and the lovely mementos of their living.

#### A READER'S STORY

Sir John Hammerton's life has been so much a life of reading books and making them that little else creeps into his autobiography *Books and Myself* (Macdonald, 15s.). While still a boy, Sir John found himself running a Glasgow sheet dedicated to the temperance cause. From this beginning, he passed through the mill of provincial journalism in a number of towns, and then came to London as editor of a group of religious journals.

Alfred Harmsworth was then in the full fury of his dizzy climb, and young John Hammerton threw in his lot with the fortunes of Amalgamated Press. Thereafter, his life was one long editorship of histories, encyclopaedias, editions of novels, popular educators and what not. Many of these works were translated into foreign tongues and achieved large sales.

It is, from beginning to end, a "success story." I found it deeply interesting, but it is difficult to say whether those who have not had some touch with the things Sir John writes about will be as interested as I was. They should be, for the sort of work Sir John Hammerton has done was well worth doing. "Popular education" never educated. The pupil's

skin was lightly tickled, and then he was turned forth to fend for himself. Sometimes he allowed his "education" to reach the logical conclusion of nothingness; but if he didn't want to do this, then the sort of works whose production Sir John Hammerton supervised were a godsend. They were to me.

READERS of COUNTRY LIFE will not need any introduction to the work of Mr. Eric Hosking and Mr. Cyril Newberry for they will remember *Intimate Sketches of Bird Life*, and they will be familiar with Mr. Hosking's bird photographs, many of which have appeared in the pages of this paper. As a photographer of birds Eric Hosking has achieved high distinction, and in the present volume—*Birds of the Day* (Collins, 12s. 6d.)—we see a number of his outstanding bird pictures, embracing a wide variety of species, from his superb snapshots of the marsh-harrier to equally good pictures of smaller and less dramatic birds. As an example of photography applied to the portrayal of birds the reviewer plumps for the charming study of a pair of red-backed shrikes at the nest gazing at their little ones. This is indeed a fine example of the art of the camera. Some 39 species are depicted, and each of these birds is described, with details of the two authors' observations and experiences when watching them. Owls are not included but this omission is no accident. We are told they will be dealt with in a future book on birds of the night. However even in this volume we find an example of flashlight work, notably the flashshot of a jackdaw and family taken in an old mill. But all the illustrations will repay careful study, and no book could be better fitted to make keen young naturalists still keener—it is an excellent introduction to bird watching and bird photography.

F. P.

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# NOTES on the NEW FROCKS

**T**HE first shows of clothes for next year are now being held in London and styling trends decided. Dresses for the Spring and Summer are softer and more feminine;athers, godets and unpressed pleats give movement to the skirts, while the flat, round or square necklines look very different from the neat turndown collars of the shirtwaist type of frock. The waist is defined, generally by an inlet belt or narrow waistband. The gathered dirndl skirt reappears, also the gored skirt with moulded hipline and full hemline. Both styles are exceedingly pretty in the chintz-like patterned rayon crêpes and many Paisley designs for which old English blocks, stored away for a century or more, are being used. New materials for Summer jumper suits and more tailored frocks include thick firm rayons in a herring-bone weave, like a tweed and in a Shantung rayon. These come in a lovely pansy blue, in mushroom and silver grey, and are shown by Dorville. Lively Topolski prints on matt rayons are in the Spectator collection. They have the pattern arranged in broad bands that are worked horizontally on the dresses. A navy and white has a kind of dot and dash effect arranged between broken bands of navy, using three together. This dress is gauged to a middle



PHOTOGRAPHS BY DERMOT CONOLLY

(Above) Coffee-brown Persian lamb with bishop sleeves and nutria streaming down both fronts. Brown tricorne and lamb bag. All The National Fur Co.



(Left) Black velvet glinting with gold studding; green folds at the throat and wrists and a high twisted turban of green. Norman Hartnell

seam. Colours everywhere are in the clear ranges. There are a forget-me-not blue, a navy that is almost indigo, rose beige, dove grey, various shades of old gold and a daffodil yellow.

Dorville show the softer silhouette throughout their first collection of Spring clothes. The dresses have square collarless necklines and gathered skirts, or round, flat necklines and gored skirts when they button down the front and open over a pleated godet in a bright contrasting colour. The checked worsteds have spits and span white dickey fronts and full gathered skirts set into a waistband, or lumber jacket tops with a





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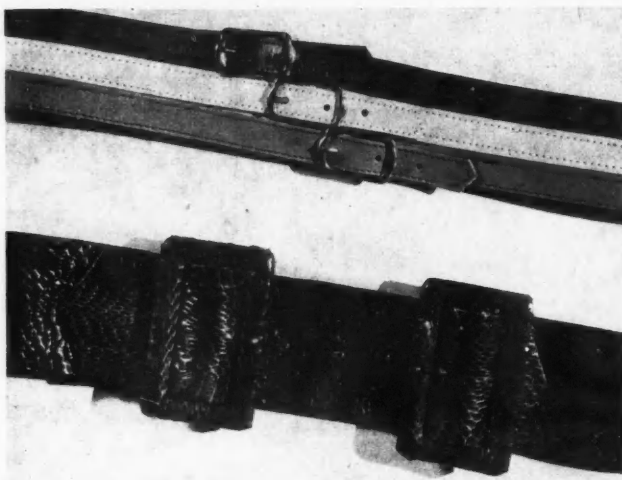
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draw-string at the waist. Dresses with distinctly fuller skirts are also shown in the collection of Spectator Models. One charming style made in various materials has a huge godet on the left side giving a fluid floating movement to the skirt. The top is cut like an open-necked shirt. This is shown in bronze and gold lamé, in pansy blue and silver lamé, in a white matt rayon printed with immense flowers, rose pink and red cabbage roses and pinks scattered here and there with a few sprigs in between, for which an old English block was used.

Velvet and velveteen make some outstanding Spring models in both collections. Smoke grey velveteen, the colour of mercury, was used for a Spectator dress with three-quarter sleeves, a round collarless neckline, a skirt gathered in front and chunky oxidised silver buttons fastening the bodice and sleeves. Old gold velveteen made another with a full, gathered skirt and chunky gold buttons. A corduroy coat in the authentic corduroy beige with a narrow whale made a stunning Dorville coat with deep inverted pleats and a half belt at the back. Mushroom-coloured velveteen in the same attractive narrow ridge made a youthful-looking frock with a square banded neckline and a belt set in above a gathered skirt.

A godet of forget-me-not blue inlet in the front of a mushroom frock in fine wool gives the illusion of a two-piece. The dress moulds the figure by gores and has a flared hemline and a flat, round neckline banded and piped in navy blue and the bands continue right down both fronts, which are faced with navy to the hem. The dress buttons from the throat to the top of the godet, which has a deep pleat in the centre. This style was shown again for the Summer in a navy linen-like rayon piped and faced



A tri-colour belt in green, coral and crimson, and a lizard belt with twin buckles in coffee brown. Marshall and Snelgrove

with mustard yellow and opening over a white godet. The line is most becoming and definitely new.

CHARMING afternoon and evening clothes are being shown everywhere for Christmas and later on. A black three-quarter swagger coat in wool at Spectator had the front and back studded with silver daisies used formally as dots. The sleek little crêpe dress underneath was soot black except for the belt and sleeves which were studded in a similar manner. Sleeves on the coat were left plain. A rayon jersey frock in inky blue had the sleeves, and cowl collar studded with silver stars. These were two very pretty outfits. So was the black jersey blouse worn with a candy pink and silver skirt, very full in front, and the pale blue and silver lamé blouse with scooped out

neckline tied each side with tiny bows, which went with a collar of a black skirt.

Tailored lamé jumper suits at Marshall and Snelgrove's have square yokes and necklines cut to a small V or a point either side. A gold lightly overchecked in three blues is gay; so is a Parma violet with a darned stripe in oxidised silver. A charming long frock called "Irene" is cherry velvet with square neckline, moderately low, and a bodice gathered to the centre. Sleeves are plain and elbow length. The rich glowing colour and material require no trimming. A pale blue moss crêpe with long bishop sleeves has a deep round yoke and a tiny upstanding neckband. Dorville show an elegant short black crêpe frock with a narrow fringe outlining the yoke in front and a deep fringe pouched over the entire back. The same soft cowl-like back appears on several of the crêpe and thin wool dresses shown in other collections.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

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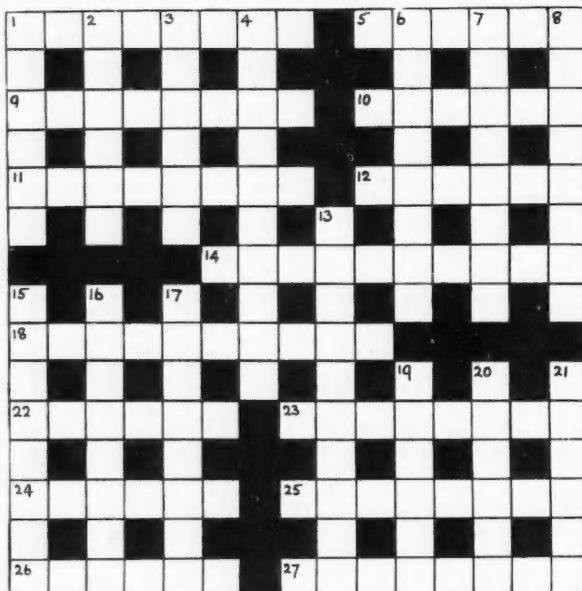
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## CROSSWORD No. 776

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 776, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, December 14, 1944.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name.....  
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)

Address.....

**SOLUTION TO No. 775.** The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of December 1, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Haunted house; 9, Primroses; 10, Lydia; 11, Events; 12, Greeting; 13, Stream; 15, West wind; 18, Flanders; 19, Prison; 21, A pet lamb; 23, Recant; 26, Title; 27, First come; 28, Metropolitan.  
DOWN.—1, Happens; 2, Unite; 3, Tarot card; 4, Dish; 5, Observed; 6, Solve; 7, Changed; 8, Oddities; 14, Reagents; 16, Tormentil; 17 From afar; 18, Flatter; 20, Not seen; 22, Liege; 24, Aloft; 25, Drop.

### ACROSS.

1. Is it what the magnet gets on picking up a pin? (4, 4)
5. Hold-up in the past? Not really (6)
9. Once an Irish landlord perhaps (8)
10. Shakespeare's gunman, one might suppose! (6)
11. Nine rats (anagr.) (8)
12. Gazed (6)
14. In illustrious manner (10)
18. Describes a trusted friend or friendship (3, 3, 4)
22. Censured (6)
23. Firmly attached to (8)
24. The fruits of peace (6)
25. "I have done mostly what most men do, And pushed it out of my mind; But I can't forget, if I wanted to, ——— trotting behind." —Kipling (4, 4)
26. Past want! (6)
27. Ninepins (8)

### DOWN

1. Euphrosyne, Aglaia and Thalia (6)
2. Assaults (6)
3. In direct line (6)
4. The schoolboy equivalent to an unblotted 'scutcheon'? (5, 5)
6. Whistler's *vade mecum* no doubt (8)
7. Nanny's recipe for curly hair (3, 5)
8. Diurnally dismal (4, 4)
13. Such initial labour doesn't necessarily imply one is digging for victory (10)
15. Spanish gold coin (8)
16. Ladies, i.e. (anagr.) (8)
17. Optic enabling even the blind to see (5, 3)
19. "Saki" wrote the story of one whose name was Sredni Vashtar (6)
20. The gland Descartes supposed was the seat of the soul (6)
21. Stones (6)

The winner of Crossword No. 774 is

Mr. H. B. Sargent,  
30, Great Northern Road,  
Dunstable, Bedfordshire.



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